New License, New Process

Beginning in Spring 2017, the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles will implement a new process for issuing driver licenses and ID cards. Under the new process, called central issuance, **customers will no longer receive their permanent driver license and ID cards while at the office.** After fraud checks have been completed to ensure a customer’s identity, a newly designed and more secure driver license/ID will be printed at a central facility. The permanent driver license/ID card will be mailed to the specified mailing address on the customer’s application and will arrive within 20 days of the office visit.

At the office, you will receive a paper license/ID for temporary use until the permanent driver license/ID card arrives in the mail. In addition, office staff will return your expiring driver license/ID card to you.

Temporary Driver License

**New Process:**

- **Step 1**
  Complete requirements to obtain or renew a driver license/ID card. Visit [ct.gov/dmv](http://ct.gov/dmv) for requirements.

- **Step 2**
  Visit an office that can process your type of driver license/ID. For office locations and services offered, please visit [ct.gov/dmv/offices](http://ct.gov/dmv/offices).

- **Step 3**
  Take your photo at the office and make sure your address on file is correct.

- **Step 4**
  Receive your temporary paper driver license/ID at the office and keep your old driver license/ID card.

- **Step 5**
  Allow up to 20 days to receive your permanent driver license/ID card in the mail.

For more information visit: [ct.gov/dmv](http://ct.gov/dmv)
No Need to Replace Immediately

Customers with a valid driver license/ID card are not required to obtain the redesigned card immediately. Existing cards will remain valid until their date of expiration.

For at least six years, there will be more than one valid driver license/ID card until the old design format is phased out. Additionally, there are no changes to driver’s license/ID card fees as a result of a new card design.

Important: Your Address Matters

The Connecticut DMV receives returned mail every day containing important notifications or documents. With the new process of central issuance of a driver license/ID card, it is critical that customers keep an updated address with DMV.

State law requires that residents notify DMV of an address change within 48 hours. For more information on changing your address, please visit ct.gov/dmv

After visiting the office, check the delivery status of your official driver license/ID at: http://ct.gov/dmv/cardtrack

New Driver License Security

As part of the new central issuance process, the Connecticut DMV is introducing a redesigned driver license/ID card. The redesigned card contains increased security features to safeguard personal information. These new licenses will be produced using an improved production and issuing process, resulting in a more tamper-proof construction. This will make it much more difficult to alter or counterfeit. The new process and redesigned card enhance the security of customer identities and reduce opportunity for identity theft. These changes are in accordance with Connecticut’s security plan under the Real ID Act and as required by federal law.

Important Features

1. Secure design comprised of iconic Connecticut symbols, intricate lines and patterns.
2. Header color and text clearly indicates license type.
3. Large primary portrait with smaller ghost portrait.
4. Veteran designation.
5. Organ donor designation.
6. Real ID verified credential (gold star) designation.