



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

Addendum to Dear Tribal Leader Letter sent on April 16, 2025

Subject: Important Courtesy Notice: REAL ID Requirement for Entry to Federal Facilities

Dear Tribal Leader,

Regarding our upcoming Tribal consultations related to EO 14210, we are writing to inform you of an important upcoming change regarding access to certain federal facilities.

Effective May 7, 2025, individuals seeking to enter federal buildings that require identification will need to present a REAL ID-compliant form of identification. This change is part of the implementation of the REAL ID Act, passed by Congress in 2005, which establishes minimum security standards for license issuance and production.

A REAL ID-compliant card is generally marked with a star at the top of the card. Tribal members may use other federally recognized forms of identification if they do not possess a REAL ID.

Acceptable alternatives include:

- A valid U.S. passport or passport card
- A DHS-trusted traveler card (Global Entry, NEXUS, SENTRI, or FAST)
- A federally recognized tribal-issued photo ID, including Enhanced Tribal Cards (ETCs).

For more information related to acceptable IDs please visit: <https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification>

We look forward to your attendance at the upcoming Tribal consultation sessions!

Personal Safety & Security ID Requirements for Federal Facilities



Personal Safety & Security
**YOUR SAFETY
OUR PRIORITY**

The [Federal Protective Service](#) is committed to ensuring the safety and security of those who visit and work in federal facilities. Part of the FPS mission is to educate those entering federal facilities about the type of identification (ID) required for access.

What type of identification do I need to enter a federal facility?

Beginning **May 7, 2025**, all adults 18 and older will need to present REAL ID-compliant state-issued identification or other [acceptable ID](#) to enter most federal facilities. Under the direction of building owners, the Federal Protective Service will ensure that all entrants meet the necessary entry requirements. Upon arrival, individuals may be asked to present a REAL ID-compliant driver's license, a passport, or other acceptable ID. This change is designed to enhance security while establishing consistent identification standards across federal facilities.

Some buildings may not be affected by this change. It is recommended that you check the specific facility entrance requirements before attempting to access any federal facility.

What is a REAL ID and when do I need one?

The REAL ID is a state-issued identification card or driver's license that meets the security standards outlined in the REAL ID Act. It strengthens security by making it more difficult for individuals to use counterfeit or invalid identification to access sensitive locations. Ultimately, REAL ID helps federal officials verify identities more efficiently in high-security environments, contributing to a safer environment for travelers, federal employees, and visitors to federal facilities.

What services and facilities can I access without a REAL ID?

You do not need a REAL ID to:

- Enter federal facilities that do not require ID for general access
- Access health- or life-preserving services
- Apply for or receive federal benefits (such as Social Security or Veterans benefits)
- Vote or register to vote
- Drive (a standard driver's license will still be valid for driving purposes only)
- Enter a police station or request law enforcement assistance

How do I know if my identification card is a REAL ID?

All REAL ID-compliant driver's licenses have specific security features to differentiate them from standard IDs, such as a gold star or similar marking generally in the top right or left corner. If you are unsure whether your state-issued ID meets REAL ID standards, check your state's Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) [website](#). For more information on REAL ID, please visit: www.tsa.gov/real-id.



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TO REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY:

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OR CONTACT YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITIES
***DIAL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES

Resources for victims of crime: dhs.gov/victims-crime



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