

CHAPTER 601  
APPLICATION FOR LICENSE

**761—601.1(321) Application for license.**

**601.1(1) General.** In addition to the information required under Iowa Code sections 321.182 and 321.196, the information in this rule is required from an applicant for a driver's license. Additional requirements for a commercial driver's license are found in 761—Chapter 607.

**601.1(2) Name.** The applicant's full legal name shall be given on the application. Full legal name means an individual's first name, middle name(s), and last name, without use of initials or nicknames. Civilian and military titles, initials and nicknames shall not be given and shall not be used on the applicant's license or in the applicant's record. This prohibition on the use of initials does not apply where a portion of an individual's legal name, whether first, middle or last, consists of a single character, whether followed by a period or not.

**601.1(3) Out-of-state verification.** Upon application for a driver's license, the department shall ascertain whether the applicant has ever held, or is the holder of, a driver's license issued by any other state.

*a.* The department shall not issue a driver's license to the applicant if:

(1) The applicant has held a driver's license issued by any other state, but the driver's license has been suspended by reason, in whole or part, of a violation and if such suspension period has not terminated.

(2) The applicant has held a driver's license issued by any other state, but the driver's license has been revoked by reason, in whole or part, of a violation and if such revocation has not terminated, except that after the expiration of one year from the date the license was revoked, the applicant may make application for a new license if permitted by law. The department may refuse to issue a license to any such applicant if, after investigation, the department determines that it will not be safe to grant such applicant the privilege of driving a motor vehicle on the highways.

(3) The applicant is the holder of a driver's license issued by another state and currently in force, unless the applicant surrenders such license.

*b.* If the applicant is subject to subparagraph 601.1(3) "a"(2) or has committed an offense or acted in a manner in another state which in Iowa would be grounds for revocation and it has been more than one year from the date the license or driving privilege was revoked, the department may issue the applicant a driver's license only upon such terms and conditions and subject to such restrictions or limitations as if the violation had been committed and the revocation imposed in Iowa. The department shall delay licensing or restrict licensing for such period of time that the applicant would be ineligible for a driving privilege or subject to a restricted driving privilege if the violation had been committed and the revocation imposed in Iowa.

(1) For purposes of determining whether it is safe to grant the applicant a driving privilege, an applicant may be determined to be safe only if the department determines all of the following:

1. The applicant has satisfied the same requirements for the grant of a driving privilege if the violation had been committed and the revocation imposed in Iowa.

2. The applicant is otherwise physically and mentally capable of safely operating a motor vehicle.

(2) However, the department shall not assess a civil penalty to the applicant as a condition of licensing under this subrule.

(3) Pursuant to Iowa Code section 321.13, the department may make further investigation or require further information necessary to determine whether it is safe to grant the applicant a driving privilege.

*c.* If the applicant is licensed in another state but does not have a current out-of-state license to surrender, the department may require verification of the applicant's driving record from the state of record, which may be accomplished electronically where possible, to assist the department in determining whether it is safe to grant the applicant a license.

**601.1(4) Disabilities.** The applicant shall indicate and explain any mental or physical disabilities which might affect the applicant's ability to operate a motor vehicle safely. The department may make further inquiries of the applicant or require further information necessary to determine whether it is safe to

grant the applicant a driving privilege, including but not limited to requesting an examination authorized under Iowa Code section 321.186.

**601.1(5) *Physical description.*** The applicant shall provide the applicant's physical description, which shall consist of the applicant's sex, height to the nearest inch, weight to the nearest pound, and eye color.

**601.1(6) *Address.*** The applicant shall provide the applicant's current residential address and the applicant's current mailing address, if different from the applicant's current residential address. The applicant shall not provide as a mailing address an address for which a forwarding order with the United States Postal Service is in place. Notwithstanding anything in subrule 601.1(6), an applicant who is a participant in the "safe at home" address confidentiality program administered by the Iowa secretary of state may submit a designated address issued to the applicant by the Iowa secretary of state as the applicant's residential and mailing address.

**601.1(7) *Signature.***

*a.* The applicant's signature shall be without qualification and shall contain only the applicant's usual signature without any other titles, characters or symbols.

*b.* The applicant's signature certifies, under penalty of perjury and pursuant to the laws of the state of Iowa, that the statements made and information provided in the applicant's application are true and correct.

*c.* The applicant's signature further certifies that the fee collected and the change returned, if any, is correct and acknowledges that the applicant is aware of the requirement to notify the department of a change in mailing address within 30 days of the change.

*d.* The applicant's signature will be captured electronically.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 321.13, 321.177, 321.182, 321.186, 321.196 and 321C.1; Article V, the REAL ID Act of 2005 (49 U.S.C. Section 30301 note); and 6 CFR Part 37.

[ARC 0347C, IAB 10/3/12, effective 11/7/12; ARC 3451C, IAB 11/8/17, effective 12/13/17; ARC 6059C, IAB 12/1/21, effective 1/5/22]

**761—601.2(321) Surrender of license and nonoperator's identification card.** An applicant for a driver's license shall surrender all other driver's licenses and nonoperator's identification cards. This includes those issued by a state other than Iowa or a foreign jurisdiction, unless otherwise provided in a letter of understanding or other written memorialization of reciprocity or understanding. An applicant who renews a driver's license electronically pursuant to 761—subrule 605.25(7) shall destroy the previous driver's license upon receipt of the renewed driver's license.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 321.182.

[ARC 0895C, IAB 8/7/13, effective 7/9/13; ARC 1073C, IAB 10/2/13, effective 11/6/13; ARC 3451C, IAB 11/8/17, effective 12/13/17]

**761—601.3(321) Emergency contact information.** Pursuant to Iowa Code section 321.197, a person may voluntarily provide the department with emergency contact information.

**601.3(1) *Form and submission.***

*a.* Emergency contact information provided to the department shall meet the requirements and be used in the circumstances set forth in Iowa Code section 321.197(2) "b."

*b.* Emergency contact information may be provided to the department through any of the following methods:

(1) By submitting Form 430305 via mail to the Motor Vehicle Division, Iowa Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 9204, Des Moines, Iowa 50306-9204; by email at [emergencyinfo.contact@iowadot.us](mailto:emergencyinfo.contact@iowadot.us); or on the department's website at [www.iowadot.gov](http://www.iowadot.gov).

(2) In person at a driver's license service center.

(3) In person at a county treasurer's office that issues driver's licenses under Iowa Code chapter 321M.

*c.* Pursuant to Iowa Code section 321.197(2) "c," an unemancipated person under 18 years of age choosing to provide emergency contact information shall include a parent, guardian or custodian as an emergency contact.

*d.* The department shall not require submission of emergency contact information as a condition of issuing, renewing or replacing a driver's license.

*e.* In accordance with Iowa Code section 321.197(2)“b,” the department will not verify the emergency contact information provided.

**601.3(2) Disclosure and use.** Information provided to the department under subrule 601.3(1) shall be provided to and used by law enforcement in accordance with the provisions of Iowa Code section 321.197.

**601.3(3) Modifications.**

*a.* A person may request changes to the person's emergency contact information by entering those changes on the department's website or by submitting Form 430305 to the department using any of the methods provided in paragraph 601.3(1)“b.”

*b.* A person may request to be removed from being listed as an emergency contact by submitting Form 430306 to the department via mail at Motor Vehicle Division, Iowa Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 9204, Des Moines, Iowa 50306-9204, or by email at [emergencyinfo.contact@iowadot.us](mailto:emergencyinfo.contact@iowadot.us). Any person removed from being listed as an emergency contact shall not be re-added as a potential emergency contact unless such person follows the opt-in process in paragraph 601.3(3)“c.”

*c.* A person who requested to be removed from being listed as an emergency contact under paragraph 601.3(3)“b” may request to again be listed as a person's emergency contact by submitting Form 430306 to the department via mail at Motor Vehicle Division, Iowa Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 9204, Des Moines, Iowa 50306-9204, or by email at [emergencyinfo.contact@iowadot.us](mailto:emergencyinfo.contact@iowadot.us).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 321.197.  
[ARC 6306C, IAB 5/4/22, effective 6/8/22]

**761—601.4** Reserved.

**761—601.5(321) Proofs submitted with application.** A person who applies for a new Iowa driver's license or nonoperator's identification card, including a person who currently holds a license or card issued by another state or foreign jurisdiction, shall submit proof of identity, date of birth, social security number, Iowa residency and current residential address, and lawful status in the United States.

**601.5(1) Verification of identity and date of birth.** To establish identity and date of birth, an applicant must submit at least one of the following documents. The department may require additional documentation if the department believes that the documentation submitted is questionable or if the department has reason to believe that the person is not who the person claims to be.

*a.* A valid, unexpired U.S. passport or U.S. passport card.

*b.* A certified copy of a birth certificate and, if applicable, a certified amended or new birth certificate showing a change in name, date of birth, or sex, filed with a state office of vital statistics or equivalent agency in the applicant's state of birth. The birth certificate must bear the issuing authority's certification of authenticity. A hospital-issued certificate is not acceptable. As used herein, “state” means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

*c.* A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the U.S. Department of State (Form FS-240, DS-1350 or FS-545).

*d.* A valid, unexpired Permanent Resident Card (Form I-551) issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

*e.* An unexpired employment authorization document issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (Form I-766 or Form I-688B).

*f.* An unexpired foreign passport with a U.S. visa affixed, accompanied by the approved I-94 form documenting the applicant's most recent admittance into the United States.

*g.* A Certificate of Naturalization issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (Form N-550 or Form N-570).

*h.* A Certificate of Citizenship (Form N-560 or Form N-561) issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

*i.* A REAL ID driver's license or identification card issued in compliance with the standards established by 6 CFR Part 37.

*j.* Such other documents as the U.S. Department of Homeland Security may designate as acceptable proof of identity and date of birth for REAL ID purposes by notice published in the Federal Register.

*k.* An Inmate Descriptor Inquiry, Client Information Inquiry or Offender Snapshot document issued by the Iowa department of corrections or the United States District Court, Northern and Southern Districts of Iowa. The document must contain the applicant's full legal name and date of birth and be notarized. An applicant who provides only a document listed in this paragraph shall not be eligible for a driver's license or nonoperator's identification card marked as acceptable for federal purposes under 6 CFR Part 37.

**601.5(2) Verification of social security number.**

*a.* Except as provided in paragraph 601.5(2) "b," an applicant must present proof of the applicant's Social Security Administration's account number.

*b.* An applicant who establishes identity by presenting the identity document listed in paragraph 601.5(1) "f" (unexpired foreign passport with a valid, unexpired U.S. visa affixed and accompanied by the approved I-94 form documenting the applicant's most recent admittance into the United States) must present proof of the applicant's social security number or demonstrate non-work authorized status.

**601.5(3) Verification of Iowa residency and current residential address.**

*a.* To document Iowa residency and current residential address, an applicant must present two documents that include the applicant's name and current Iowa residential address and that demonstrate residency in the state of Iowa. Acceptable documents are documents issued by a person, organization, or entity other than the applicant, that include the issuer's name and address, include the applicant's name and current residential address, and demonstrate residency in the state of Iowa. The documents must be reasonable, authentic documents capable of verification by the department.

*b.* The address must be a street or highway address, and may not be a post office box. In areas where a number and street name have not been assigned, an address convention used by the U.S. Postal Service is acceptable. The current residence of a person with more than one dwelling is the dwelling for which the person claims a homestead tax credit under Iowa Code chapter 425, if applicable.

*c.* An applicant who is a member of the armed forces and is an Iowa resident stationed in another state may use the applicant's address in the state of station as the applicant's current residential address if the applicant does not maintain an Iowa residence during the applicant's deployment outside the state of Iowa. The applicant must provide official documentation confirming the applicant's residential address in the state of station and that the applicant is stationed in that state. The applicant's mailing address may be the applicant's current residential address or another address at which the applicant receives mail.

*d.* An applicant who is a dependent family member of and resides with a member of the armed forces who is an Iowa resident stationed in another state may use the applicant's address in the state of station as the applicant's current residential address if the applicant does not maintain an Iowa residence during the applicant's deployment outside the state of Iowa. The applicant must provide official documentation confirming the applicant's residential address in the state of station and that the applicant is a dependent family member of a member of the armed forces stationed in that state. The applicant's mailing address may be the applicant's current residential address or another address at which the applicant receives mail.

**601.5(4) Verification of lawful status in the United States.**

*a.* If an applicant presents one of the identity documents listed under subrule 601.5(1), the department's verification of that identity document is satisfactory evidence of lawful status.

*b.* An applicant who presents only a document listed under subrule 601.5(1), paragraph "e," "f," or "i," is not eligible to receive a driver's license or nonoperator's identification card marked as REAL ID compliant unless the applicant also provides one of the other documents listed in subrule 601.5(1), or another United States Department of Homeland Security-approved document.

**601.5(5) Verification of name change.** The name listed on the driver's license or nonoperator's identification card that is issued shall be identical to the name listed on the identity document submitted

unless the applicant submits the chain of legal documents necessary to show the legal change of the applicant's name from the identity document submitted to the applicant's current legal name under paragraph 601.5(5) "a" or "b." Alternatively, an applicant who is an existing Iowa licensee or cardholder may confirm the applicant's current legal name as displayed on the applicant's license or card under the requirements of paragraph 601.5(5) "c." The following documents are acceptable:

a. Court-ordered name change. A court order must contain the applicant's prior legal name, the applicant's court-ordered legal name, and the court's certification of authenticity. Acceptable court orders include orders under petition for name change, orders for name change set forth in a decree of dissolution, and orders for name change set forth in a decree of adoption.

b. Certified copy of marriage certificate. The marriage certificate must be filed with a state office of vital statistics or equivalent agency in the person's state or country of marriage. The certificate must bear the issuing authority's certification of authenticity. A church, chapel or similarly issued certificate is not acceptable. As used herein, "state" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

c. Social security records match. The applicant must establish that the applicant's Social Security Administration's account number is issued in the applicant's current legal name as verified by the department with the Social Security Online Verification (SSOLV) system in accordance with 6 CFR Section 37.13(b)(2).

**601.5(6) Verification of change of date of birth.** The date of birth listed on the driver's license or nonoperator's identification card that is issued shall be identical to the date of birth listed on the identity document submitted unless the applicant submits a certified amended or new birth certificate that documents the change of date of birth and that meets the requirements of paragraph 601.5(1) "b."

**601.5(7) Verification of change of sex designation.** The sex designation listed on the driver's license or nonoperator's identification card that is issued shall be identical to the sex designation listed on the identity document submitted unless the applicant does one of the following:

a. *Applicants born in Iowa.* An applicant born in Iowa must submit a certified amended or new Iowa birth certificate that documents the change of sex designation and that meets the requirements of paragraph 601.5(1) "b."

b. *Applicants born outside of Iowa.*

(1) An applicant born outside of Iowa may document the change of sex designation by any of the following methods:

1. Submit a certified amended or new birth certificate from a state other than Iowa that documents the change of sex designation and that meets the requirements of paragraph 601.5(1) "b."

2. Submit an amended or new Consular Report of Birth Abroad that documents the change of sex designation and meets the requirements of paragraph 601.5(1) "c."

3. Submit an amended or new Certificate of Citizenship that documents the change of sex designation and meets the requirements of paragraph 601.5(1) "h."

4. Submit a notarized affidavit from a physician and surgeon or osteopathic physician and surgeon that documents all of the following:

- The physician and surgeon or osteopathic physician and surgeon completed sex designation treatment for the applicant.

- A description of the medical procedures that constituted the treatment.

- As a result of the treatment, the applicant's sex designation was permanently changed by surgery or other treatment.

- The physician and surgeon or osteopathic physician and surgeon's full name, address, state of medical license, and medical license number.

(2) Pursuant to Iowa Code section 321.13, the department may make further investigation or require further information necessary to determine whether a change of sex designation occurred.

c. *Documentation.* Documentation provided under this subrule shall be submitted to the Motor Vehicle Division, Iowa Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 9204, Des Moines, Iowa 50306-9204.

*d. Name change.* A change of sex designation shall not effect a name change unless the applicant verifies a name change pursuant to subrule 601.5(5).

**601.5(8) Exception process.** As provided in 6 CFR Section 37.11(h) (REAL ID exceptions process), and notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter or 761—Chapter 11 to the contrary, an applicant who, for reasons beyond the applicant's control, is unable to present a necessary document under this rule may apply to the department for an exception as provided in this subrule.

*a.* To apply for an exception under this rule, an applicant shall do all of the following:

(1) Submit an application to the department in a manner prescribed by the department. The application shall contain all of the following:

1. The applicant's name, address, date of birth and contact information.

2. Whether the applicant is applying for a driver's license or nonoperator's identification card.

3. A description of the necessary verification of identity and date of birth or verification of name change documents under this rule that the applicant is unable to provide and the reason why it is beyond the applicant's control to provide the document.

4. Any alternate document or other proof that exists to verify the facts contained in the missing document, which may include an approved I-94 form documenting the applicant's most recent admittance into the United States as verified by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in accordance with 6 CFR Section 37.13.

5. Any other information or proof required by the department.

*b.* The motor vehicle division director or the director's designee may grant an exception under this rule if all of the following apply:

(1) The applicant has submitted an application with all of the required documentation under paragraph "a."

(2) The applicant, as determined by the department, has sufficiently demonstrated that the applicant is unable to provide a necessary document under this rule due to reasons beyond the applicant's control.

(3) The application of the subject rule will pose an undue hardship on the applicant, as determined by the department.

(4) Granting the exception will not prejudice the substantial legal rights of any person, as determined by the department.

*c.* The department may place any condition on an exception issued under this rule that the department finds necessary to carry out the department's functions under the REAL ID Act of 2005 as amended by the REAL ID Modernization Act, H.R. 133, Division U, Title X.

*d.* An exception under this subrule shall not apply to a required document under subrule 601.5(2).

*e.* An alternate document accepted under this exception process to satisfy the requirements of subrule 601.5(4) is only allowed if the document demonstrates United States citizenship as required by 6 CFR Section 37.11(h).

*f.* An applicant's inability to pay for a necessary document under this rule does not meet the criteria for an exception under this subrule.

*g.* Nothing in this subrule shall require the department to issue a driver's license or nonoperator's identification card if the applicant is not otherwise eligible for a license or card. The department reserves the right to modify or cancel an exception at any time if the department finds that anything in the exception application or accompanying documentation was based on fraud or misrepresentation by the applicant, or if the modification or cancellation is necessary based on a change in circumstances of the applicant.

*h.* The application and documentation provided under this subrule shall be submitted to the Motor Vehicle Division, Iowa Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 9204, Des Moines, Iowa 50306-9204, or through electronic means determined by the department. The director of the motor vehicle division or the director's designee may, in response to an application submitted under this subrule, grant or deny an application for exception in accordance with this subrule.

*i.* An applicant whose application for exception under this rule has been denied may contest the decision in accordance with Iowa Code chapter 17A and 761—Chapter 13. The request for a hearing shall be submitted in writing to the motor vehicle division. The request shall include, as applicable, the applicant's name, driver's license or nonoperator's identification number, date of birth, complete

address and telephone number. The request must be submitted within 20 days after the date of the notice of exception denial.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 17A and sections 321.13, 321.182 and 321.189; the REAL ID Act of 2005 (49 U.S.C. Section 30301 note) as amended by the REAL ID Modernization Act, H.R. 133, Division U, Title X; and 6 CFR Part 37.

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**761—601.6(321) Parent’s, guardian’s or custodian’s consent.** The application of an unmarried person under the age of 18 years shall contain the verified consent and confirmation of the applicant’s birthday and shall be signed by either parent of the applicant, the guardian of the applicant, or a person having custody of the applicant under Iowa Code chapter 232 or 600A. Consent and confirmation shall be proved by submission of Form 430018, Parent’s, Guardian’s or Custodian’s Consent to Issue Driver’s License or Permit, or its equivalent in an electronic format to be determined by the department. The signature, which may be electronic, shall be dated and shall be subject to the following verification or its equivalent: “I certify under penalty of perjury and pursuant to the laws of the state of Iowa that the preceding is true and correct.” No exception shall be made for the parent’s, guardian’s or custodian’s absence from Iowa. A married person under the age of 18 years shall submit a marriage certificate that meets the requirements of paragraph 601.5(5) “b” to avoid submission of the consent form.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 321.184.  
[ARC 7902B, IAB 7/1/09, effective 8/5/09; ARC 3451C, IAB 11/8/17, effective 12/13/17]

**761—601.7(321) REAL ID driver’s license.** A person who seeks a driver’s license that is compliant with the REAL ID Act of 2005, 49 U.S.C. §30301 note, as further defined in 6 CFR Part 37 (“REAL ID driver’s license”), must meet and comply with all lawful requirements for an Iowa driver’s license, and must also meet and comply with all application and documentation requirements set forth at 6 CFR Part 37, including but not limited to documentation of identity, date of birth, social security number, address of principal residence, and evidence of lawful status in the United States. Documents and information provided to fulfill REAL ID requirements must be verified as required in 6 CFR 37.13. An applicant for a REAL ID driver’s license is subject to a mandatory facial image capture that meets the requirements of 6 CFR 37.11(a). A REAL ID driver’s license may not be issued, reissued, or renewed except as permitted in 6 CFR Part 37 and may not be issued, reissued, or renewed by any procedure, in any circumstance, to any person, or for any term prohibited under 6 CFR Part 37. The information on the front of any REAL ID driver’s license must include all information and markings required by 6 CFR 37.17. Nothing in this rule requires a person to obtain a REAL ID driver’s license.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 321, the REAL ID Act of 2005 (49 U.S.C. Section 30301 note), and 6 CFR Part 37.

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