

Applying for a Driver's License, Temporary Visitor Driver's License or Illinois State ID Card

Can I use my home country Driver's License in the U.S.?

- Illinois law permits students at Illinois colleges and universities to drive on a valid license from their home state or country. Please see [Illinois Rules of the Road](#), page 5: "Individuals may drive in Illinois without a valid Illinois driver's license if they meet one of the following circumstances: Are an out-of-state student attending an Illinois college/university; they and their spouse and children may drive with a valid license from their home state or country".
- Each state sets its own laws regarding driving, so if you plan to drive through other U.S. states, you **MUST** be sure that your foreign driver's license will work there as well.
- Please note that **there is no such thing as an International Driver's License**, but there is an International Driving Permit which is issued in your home country. **The International Driving Permit translates your license to make it easier for U.S. officials to read, but by itself does not give you permission to drive in the state of Illinois.**

How to obtain an Illinois Driver's License as an International Student:

- If you have a Social Security Number → you may apply for a **State of Illinois Driver's License**
- If you do not have a Social Security Number → you may apply for a **Temporary Visitor Driver's License**

STATE OF ILLINOIS DRIVER'S LICENSE

- A driver's license is an official document which states that a person may operate a motorized vehicle (motorcycle, car, truck or bus) on a public roadway.
- As most citizens of the U.S. possess a valid driver's license, it has also become a standard form of picture identification.

How to apply for an Illinois Driver's License:

- You must first **schedule an appointment** to visit a **Secretary of State Drivers Facility** (also called DMV for Department of Motor Vehicles). The Driver Services Facility Appointment System allows you to schedule your visit in advance up to 10 business days at select Secretary of State facilities for Illinois driver's license and state ID card services. [Click here](#) to view appointment scheduling information.
- The closest facility to North Park University is Chicago North, located at 5401 N. Elston Ave., Chicago, IL 60630
- The following documentation is needed when you visit the DMV:
 - Valid Passport and I-94 Admission Number (access through <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/> and print a copy)
 - I-20 form or DS-2019 form issued for at least 1 year of study, with at least 6 months remaining. *If you are a new or transfer student, please check with the Office of International Affairs to make sure that your SEVIS record has been registered and you have received a continued attendance I-20 (F-1 students).*
 - Social Security Card
 - Application fee of \$30 (payable by cash or debit/credit card)
 - **TWO** of the following documents which prove your residency (address) in the state of Illinois:



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- Bank statement, canceled check, official North Park transcript, statement of benefits from insurance company, direct deposit receipt from on campus employment, tuition bill from North Park, official letter on North Park letterhead. See a full list of acceptable documents on www.cyberdriveillinois.com.
- Anyone who is 18-20 years old must also present proof of successful completion of the 6 hour adult driver education and training course.

What to expect when applying for an Illinois Driver's License:

- You will be required to take a written exam and a road test at the DMV
 - It is a good idea to read [*Illinois Rules of the Road*](#) before you take the written exam or the road test
 - You will need your own car to take the road test, so have a friend drive you to the DMV *Illinois Rules of the Road* contains information on driver's licenses, traffic safety issues, and general information regarding Illinois traffic laws and ordinances. In particular, it is important to read the chapter on *Driver's License Exams* to find out what you will need to know for the written exam and road test

In the United States, citizens are able to register to vote when they apply for a driver's license. This is called the "Motor-Vehicle Act". You may be asked about registering to vote while you are at the DMV; it is very important that you **DO NOT** register to vote. **When you register to vote you are stating that you are a U.S. citizen; if you are not a U.S citizen, you will be committing a voter fraud and will be deportable from the United States.**

TEMPORARY VISITOR DRIVER'S LICENSE (TVDL)

The Illinois DMV is currently not requiring the denial letter from the Social Security Office as of July 2020. This is always subject to change. The applicant must sign a declaration on the TVDL application that the applicant is, at the time of application, ineligible to obtain a Social Security number.

What is a Temporary Visitor Driver's License?

- A Temporary Visitor Driver's License (TVDL) is issued by the Secretary of State's Office for non-U.S. citizens who are temporarily in Illinois and cannot get a Social Security number.
- A TVDL is issued for the purpose of driving a car. However, it is different from an Illinois Driver's License because the words "Not Valid for Identification" appear on the TVDL.
- A TVDL is issued for a **MAXIMUM** of 3 years or the period of time a non-citizen is authorized to stay in the U.S., whichever period is **shorter**
- **Please Note:** Applicants for TVDL must be authorized to stay in the U.S. for **at least 1 year** and must have **at least 6 months remaining on the authorized stay** when they apply for a TVDL.



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Where does one go to apply for a TVDL?

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- The closest facility to North Park University is Chicago North, located at 5401 N. Elston Ave., Chicago, IL 60630

What documentation is needed when going to apply for a TVDL?

Required documents:

- Proof of student status (email records@northpark.edu to request a "Verification of Enrollment" for the Fall 2020 semester)
- Valid Passport and I-94 Admission Number (access through <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/i94/> and print a copy)
- I-20 form or DS-2019 form issued for at least 1 year of study, with at least 6 months remaining. *If you are a new or transfer student, please check with the Office of International Affairs to make sure that your SEVIS record has been registered and you have received a continued attendance I-20 (F-1 students).*
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- You will be required to take a written exam and a road test at the DMV
 - It is a good idea to read [Illinois Rules of the Road](#) before you take the written exam or the road test
 - You will need your own car to take the road test, so have a friend drive you to the DMV
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ILLINOIS STATE ID CARD

- If you do not need to drive while in the United States, but want a form of identification that is easier than carrying your passport, you may apply for an Illinois State ID Card by following the application instructions listed above for obtaining a driver's license. Full instructions available [online](#).
- The fee for an Illinois State ID Card is \$20