Getting a Massachusetts Identification Card

If you do not have a driver’s license but wish to have another form of identity, the RMV can issue one of two official identification cards: the Massachusetts ID and the Massachusetts Liquor ID (over age 21). These cards look similar to a driver’s license, but do not extend any driving privileges. They can be used as an official form of identity, signature, and age. You cannot obtain a State ID card if you already have a Massachusetts Driver’s License.

Applying for a Massachusetts ID

In order to apply for a Massachusetts ID, visit any full-service RMV office, such as the office in Worcester. Requirements to apply for a Massachusetts ID include:

- You must be at least 14 years of age
- You may not hold a valid license in any state (including Massachusetts)
- You must be a resident of Massachusetts

The documents you need to apply, all of which must be originals and not copies, include:

- A Social Security Number (SSN) OR an acceptable Denial Notice form the Social Security Administration
- Document proving Massachusetts Residency showing your name and address (such as a bank statement less than 60 days old, cell phone/utility bill less than 60 days old, or a current lease)
  - If you are interested in applying for a REAL ID that can be used to enter federal facilities, you will need 2 documents proving Massachusetts Residency

Upon arrival at the RMV, you will be required to fill out the ID Card Application and pay a $25 fee. After successfully applying, you will be given a temporary ID card, which is valid for 30 days, until your permanent card is mailed to you. The Massachusetts ID cards expire every 5 years.

NOTE: RMV regulations require that visa holders must have proof of at least 12 months total of legal presence in the US in order to be eligible to apply for a Massachusetts ID or Liquor ID. This mean you must have at least 1 year between the “Program Start/End Dates” on your I-20 form, or the “Form Covers Period: From- To” dates on your DS-2019. You must also have a minimum of 30 days remaining in the US to be eligible for a Massachusetts ID or Liquor ID (based on I-20 or DS-2019 end date, or your OPT/STEM OPT EAD Card end date). If you are on OPT, your start date should be your I-20 program start date.

Applying for a Massachusetts Liquor ID

If you are over the age of 21, you can apply for a Massachusetts Liquor ID, which allows you to order or purchase alcohol. Aside from being at least 21 years of age, the steps, requirements, and information regarding the Liquor ID are exactly the same as the Massachusetts ID listed above.

RMV Location and Hours

The Worcester RMV branch is located at 611 Main Street. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm.

For more information, visit the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles website at https://www.mass.gov/service-details/types-of-identification-cards-mass-ids-and-liquor-ids

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