

Identification

for driver licensing

To get or renew a driver licence, you'll need to show us some acceptable identification to confirm your identity.

Evidence of your identity

For a driver licence application, you must present:

- your New Zealand driver licence (which can be current or expired up to two years), or
- your current New Zealand passport.

If you don't have your New Zealand driver licence or your New Zealand passport has expired, you'll need to provide one document from table 1 **and** one document from table 2. One of these documents must contain your photo.

All documents must be originals. Photocopied or scanned documents aren't acceptable.

If your evidence of identity document isn't issued in the name currently on your driver licence

You may be required to provide additional documentation to show the link between those names (eg a birth certificate and/or a marriage certificate).

Table 1: Primary documents

Document type	Issued by
New Zealand passport*	Department of Internal Affairs (DIA - Identity Services)
Overseas passport (may include New Zealand visa/permit)*	Overseas authority
New Zealand emergency travel document	DIA (Identity Services)
New Zealand refugee travel document	DIA (Identity Services)
New Zealand certificate of identity (issued under the Passports Act 1992)	DIA (Identity Services)
New Zealand certificate of identity (issued under the Immigration Act 2009)	Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (Immigration)
New Zealand firearms licence*	NZ Police
New Zealand full birth certificate issued on or after 1 January 1998, carrying a unique identification number	DIA (Identity Services)
New Zealand citizenship certificate	DIA (Identity Services)

*These documents can be current or expired up to two years. All other documents in this table must be current.

Table 2: Supporting documents

Document type	Issued by
Kiwi Access card (formerly known as an 18+ card)	Hospitality Association of New Zealand
Community services card	Ministry of Social Development (MSD)
SuperGold card	MSD
Veteran SuperGold card	MSD
New Zealand student photo ID card	Educational institution
New Zealand employee photo ID card	Employer
New Zealand electoral roll record	Enrolment centre of NZ Post
Inland Revenue number	Inland Revenue Department
New Zealand-issued utility bill or bank statement*	Utility provider or bank
Overseas driver licence	Overseas licensing authority
Steps to freedom form	Department of Corrections

*These documents must be issued within the last six months. They must show your first name (or initials) and last name, and the issuer (utility company or bank). They don't need to show any transaction details. All other documents in this table must be current.

If neither document contains a photo, you must also provide a passport-style photo and an identity declaration signed by an identity referee.

An *Identity referee declaration* form (DL26) is available for your convenience at www.nzta.govt.nz/form-dl26

Who can be an identity referee

Your referee must:

- have a valid New Zealand passport or New Zealand driver licence, and
- have known you for one year or more, and
- be at least 16 years of age, and
- not be related to you or part of your extended family group, and
- not be your spouse or partner, and
- not live at the same address as you.

Your referee must provide their:

- passport or driver licence number
- name
- date of birth
- contact details, including a day time phone number.

Your referee must write your full name on the back of the photo and sign and date it. The image must be a good likeness and of an equal standard to one required for a driver licence or passport application.

Note: a business that takes passport photos will usually supply a photo with a pre-printed label on the back.

If you're from overseas and don't have a New Zealand licence

If you're from overseas you still need to present a combination of evidence of identity documents (one primary document from table 1 and one supporting document from table 2).

If you're applying for a New Zealand driver licence for the first time, this could be your current overseas passport and your current overseas driver licence.

Evidence of name change

If the name you want on your photo driver licence is different from the name on the Driver Licence Register, or on **either** of your two forms of identity, you'll need to provide one of the following documents (which must be an original) as proof of your name change.

An example of when you might need to do this is if you've been married since your evidence of identity document was issued.

Document type	Issued by
New Zealand birth certificate showing both names	DIA (Identity Services)
Marriage or civil union certificate	DIA (Identity Services)
Dissolution of marriage or civil union order	Ministry of Justice
Certificate of annulment	Ministry of Justice
Deed poll certificate, change of name certificate	DIA (Identity Service)
Statutory declaration confirming change of name which has been registered with the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages	DIA (Identity Services)

ID is required to prevent fraud

We need to have steps in place to prevent people from getting a driver licence fraudulently.

Requiring particular forms of identification, every time you get or renew your driver licence, improves the integrity of the licence system and protects law-abiding drivers.

The information in this factsheet is a general guide only. It is not the source of the law and should not be used in place of authoritative legal documents. Some factsheets are updated frequently and print versions can quickly become out of date. If the currency of the information you are reading is important, check the factsheet index on our website (www.nzta.govt.nz/factsheets) or call us on 0800 822 422.

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