The REAL ID Act officially goes into effect on **October 1, 2020**, and its enactment will include a number of important changes to standard travel procedure that are important to consider prior to embarking on your next domestic trip.

Beginning on October 1, 2020, the TSA and other government agencies will only accept state-issued, REAL ID compliant, driver’s licenses or other approved forms of ID at all security checkpoints for every traveler 18 years of age or older.

**NEW Electronic Application!**

The Department of Homeland Security is looking to ensure passengers boarding flights in October have the proper form of identification needed to pass through security. To help meet the October 1 Real ID deadline, the United States government has granted permission to individual states to start allowing travelers to submit the required application documents electronically.

Allowing you to submit the necessary paperwork online will expedite service at the DMVs across the country. To obtain the new license online, you will still need to the provide the required information outlined on page 3.
Understanding the REAL ID License

All 50 states and territories are compliant with REAL ID standards and are “on track” to issue REAL ID compliant forms of identification before the October 2020 deadline. Your license or identification is REAL ID compliant if the REAL ID star can be found on the top right corner of the card or document. The following symbols are all used to denote REAL ID compliance:

Do I Need a REAL ID?

You have a choice to obtain a REAL ID license or not. In most instances, a REAL ID isn’t completely necessary, however, many people will find traveling with a compliant license to be much easier. Here is a breakdown of some common reasons to consider getting a REAL ID and a few reasons why you might not need one.

YES

• I want to travel with only my state-issued ID
• I don’t have a passport or another TSA-approved ID
• I need to visit a secure federal facility, such as a military base

NO

• I am under 18
• I only need my ID for purposes of identification
• I don’t mind bringing a TSA-approved ID (like a passport) along when I fly starting on Oct. 1, 2020
Steps to Obtain a REAL ID License

After you decided if a REAL ID compliant license makes the most sense for you, you must go through the process of obtaining one. The steps to obtain a REAL ID compliant license are simple and are highlighted below, however, since licenses are issued at the state-level each process is slightly different so please be sure to check your state’s specific requirements before arriving at your DMV.

1. Make an appointment to visit a DMV field office before your state’s deadline.

2. Show proof of identity, such as a certified copy of a U.S. birth certificate, U.S. passport, employment authorization document, permanent resident card or foreign passport with an approved form I-94.

   Present proof of your Social Security number, such as an SSN card, W-2 or paystub with full SSN.

   Show proof of residency document, such as a rental or lease agreement, mortgage bill, utility bill or employment, medical or school document.

   If applicable – An original or certified copy of a name change document, such as a marriage certificate or divorce decree.

3. Pay fee for license. See your local DMV website for document requirements.

More information regarding the REAL ID Act can be found here.