



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

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The information in this manual is not copyrighted and may be reproduced or translated by the user as needed.

Every effort has been made to provide, in this publication, the most current and accurate information as of July 1, 2009.

Misprints or outdated information that may appear within these pages will not override or supersede changes that have occurred in the law, promulgated rules and regulations or policy that has been initiated since the printing date.

### **Where You Can Obtain a Copy of this Publication**

This publication is available at every Driver Service Center location across the state.

This publication is also available online at the Tennessee Department of Safety website: [tn.gov/safety](http://tn.gov/safety)

Written comments/concerns about this publication should be sent to:

Tennessee Department of Safety  
Driver Services Division  
PO Box 945  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202

### **Service Locations to Obtain or Renew Your License:**

To provide the best possible service, the Department of Safety has Driver Service Centers located throughout the state, open on different days, with expanded operating hours. We have offices open Monday through Friday, Monday through Thursday, as well Tuesday through Friday, to allow for expanded hours of operation to accommodate our customer's needs and schedules.

To find the nearest location with the service days and operating hours that best fit your needs, go to our website at [tn.gov/safety](http://tn.gov/safety) or by calling toll-free 1-866-849-3548. TDD assistance for the hearing impaired can be provided by dialing 615-532-2281 (Telecommunications Device for the Hearing Impaired).

IMPORTANT: EVERY time you renew your license or ID you must check "yes" for donation or your name will automatically be removed from the Donor Registry. You can also register online at anytime at [www.tndonorregistry.org](http://www.tndonorregistry.org) or call (877)-522-5050 for more information.

### **Voter Registration – Motor Voter**

To make it easy for citizens to register to vote, you may apply to register to vote or update your voter record, when you apply for a driver license or ID. The Department does not process your voter registration application. The application is forwarded to your local election commission.

- REMEMBER: Only the Election Registrar can process and issue a voter registration card. The Driver Service Center sends your application to the appropriate County Election Commission to save you an additional trip. If you have not received your Voter Registration Card within 30 days of applying at the Driver License Service Center, you should contact your local County Election Commission immediately.

### **International Driving Permit (IDP)**

Possession of an International Driving Permit does not mean that the holder is valid to operate an automobile in Tennessee or any other state. Do NOT be fooled by Internet sites that claim that you can drive on such a permit if your license is suspended or revoked in any state. The facts about International Driving Permits (IDP) are as follows:

- An International Driving Permit is an official translation of a driver's home state or country driver license into the official languages of the United Nations, including English. This translated document is to be used in conjunction with the valid driver license issued by the driver's home state or country.
- U.S. Citizens traveling abroad and/or foreign visitors to the United States are **NOT required** to have an International Driving Permit. However it can be useful in emergencies such as traffic violations or auto accidents when a foreign language is involved.
- The International Driving Permit **MUST** be obtained in the home country of the driver.

**U.S. Citizens:** In order to obtain an IDP a United States citizen must:

- Be at least eighteen (18) years of age
- Hold a VALID U.S. State, Territorial or U.S. Department of State Driver License, which is NOT under revocation or suspension at the time the IDP is issued.
- The IDP is valid for one (1) year only from the date of issuance and if the applicant's state license expires and is not renewed or is suspended during that year the IDP becomes invalid.
- The IDP is **NOT valid for driving in the United States or its territories and it is NOT valid by itself for driving.**

- The IDP **MUST** be carried with the driver's regular valid U.S. Driver License.
- NON-U.S. Citizens: must obtain their International Driving Permit in their native country prior to arrival in the U.S. if desired.
- An IDP can NOT be issued to a foreign visitor by any agency in the United States.
- The Tennessee Driver Service Centers do NOT issue International Driving Permits.
- Any Tennessee resident who is interested in obtaining an IDP before traveling abroad should contact a local American Automobile Association (AAA) office or visit their website at: [www.aaasouth.com](http://www.aaasouth.com)

### **Registered Sexual Offender and Violent Sexual Offender**

If you are a registered sexual offender or violent sexual offender and making application for a new driver license, or renewing your current driver license, it is your responsibility to inform the Department of Safety Driver License Examiner that you are required to register as a sexual offender or violent sexual offender.

A Sex Offender Declaration and Supplemental Application must be completed along with documentation acceptable to the Department of Safety, evidencing identity, legal presence, and residency if the license requested requires such documentation. If you are ineligible to be issued a driver license, the Department of Safety will issue a photo identification license, or identification certificate. The applicant is required to pay any applicable fees related to the issuance of the driver license or photo identification card.

Sexual Offender and Violent Sexual Offenders shall always have their driver license, photo identification card or identification certificate in their possession.



## Chapter 1 YOUR LICENSE

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30 days of applying at the Driver License Office, you should contact your local County Election Commission immediately.

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An International Driving Permit is an official translation of a driver's home state or country driver license into the nine official languages of the United Nations, including English. This translated document is to be used **with** the valid driver license issued by the driver's home state or country. Tennessee Driver License Offices do not issue International Driving Permits. Any Tennessee resident who is interested in obtaining an IDP before traveling abroad should contact a local American Automobile Association (AAA) office or visit their website at: [www.aaasouth.com](http://www.aaasouth.com).