

Temporary Illinois Driver's License Checklist

For F-1 international students planning to drive in the U.S.

The Illinois Secretary of State's Office issues a Temporary Visitor Driver's License (TVDL) for non-citizens of the United States (U.S.) if they have been granted temporary, legal entry into the country and are legally residing in the U.S.

Who is eligible for a TVDL?

- A non-citizen of the U.S.;
- Lawfully admitted to the U.S.;
- Temporarily residing in the state of Illinois;
- Be authorized to live in the country for at least one year and have at least six months remaining on an authorized stay;
- Be ineligible for a Social Security Number (if you have been issued an SSN, you can apply for a driver's license); and
- Be registered for classes.

Documents required to apply:

- ☐ Current I-20
- ☐ I-94
- ☐ Unexpired passport
- ☐ A letter from ECC confirming your enrollment
- ☐ Two proofs of current address. A student in the International Student Homestay Program can request a letter from the Homestay Coordinator verifying their current address.

Steps for applying for a TVDL

1. Obtain required documentation.
2. Prepare for driver's test by studying the "Illinois Rules of the Road" section of the "Cyber Drive Illinois" website listed below. If you would like to practice driving before your road test, you may choose to apply for an instruction permit.
3. If you are between 18-20 years of age, you must present proof of successful completion of a six-hour adult driver education and training course.
4. Schedule an appointment at one of the designated Secretary of State Facilities listed below:

Rockford Central

3720 E State St
Rockford, IL 61108
815-394-0179

Chicago North

5401 N Elston Ave
Chicago, IL 60630
312-793-1010

Chicago West

5301 W. Lexington St
Chicago, IL 60644
312-793-1010

Aurora

339 E Indian Trail
Aurora, IL 60505
312-793-1010

Naperville

931 W 75th St, Suite 161
Naperville, IL 60565
312-793-1010

5. Have a licensed driver drive you to the Secretary of State Facility location.
6. Pay the required fee.

Please Note:

You must take the Written Test, Vision Test, and the Road Test. You will need to supply your own vehicle for the Road Test that is properly insured in the state of Illinois. Road tests are only available until sunset or 30 minutes before closing, whichever is sooner.

The TVDL is valid for three years or for the period of time you are authorized to stay in the country, whichever ends sooner. No renewals are allowed if there is less than six months left on your I-20. For more information visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com.

This information is subject to change without notice.

For individual questions, please contact the Center for Global Engagement for an appointment.