

International Services Office

## OBTAINING A U.S. DRIVER'S LICENSE

Obtaining a driver's license can be a tricky, time-consuming task. To expedite the process for you, the ISO has created this handout with information for each Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) in the D.C. area. After reading, we hope you will be more prepared to tackle the DMV!

### REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION (ONLY ORIGINALS WILL BE ACCEPTED)

Regardless of the state from which you hope to obtain a driver's license, please bring the following documentation with you to the DMV:

- Valid, unexpired passport
- One additional form of identification (GWorld card, valid employment card, resident alien card, health insurance card, etc.)
- Valid, unexpired visa
- Form I-20 or DS-2019
- Visa Form I-94 with certifications
- Proof of Residency (utility bill, copy of lease, etc.)
  - If you live on-campus, please visit the Office of the Registrar for an official 'proof of residency letter'
- Social Security Number (SSN)
  - If you are unable to get a SSN, please visit the Social Security Administration for an official letter of rejection stating your ineligibility.
- Foreign Driver's License (if applicable)
  - If you possess a non-English driver's license from a foreign country, you are required to include an official English translation from your embassy (on official letterhead) or from a certified translator (with a raised certification stamp). The date of the translation must be on or after the date on your non-English driver's license.
- Necessary fees (Subject to Change: please visit the provided websites for current charges and fees.)

### TO OBTAIN A DRIVER'S LICENSE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

For complete information, please visit <http://dmv.washingtondc.gov/serv/dlicense.shtm>

Non-US citizens & Diplomats must visit the DMV office in Washington, DC

301 C Street, NW

Tuesday-Friday 8:15am-4:00pm

(202) 727-5000

**First-time drivers** over the age of 21 may apply for a license after passing the written knowledge exam and road skills test. Those under 21 are required to participate in the Graduated Licensing Program to learn safe driving skills. If you are 16 or 17 years old, a notarized parental permission form is required.

**To convert an out-of-state driver's license**, please provide your old license, proof of residency, social security number, ability to drive and identification. Please note you will be required to pass a vision test and surrender your previous license.

**To convert a foreign license**, you are required to pass a vision test and a written knowledge test. Questions on this exam are specific and it is therefore recommended to study beforehand. Please visit [http://dmv.washingtondc.gov/serv/dlicense/learners\\_sample.shtm](http://dmv.washingtondc.gov/serv/dlicense/learners_sample.shtm) for a study guide and further information.

# THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON DC

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### TO OBTAIN A DRIVER'S LICENSE IN VIRGINIA

For complete information, please visit <http://www.dmv.virginia.gov/webdoc/citizen/drivers/applying.asp>

Please visit the DMV office located in Arlington, Virginia

4150 South Four Mile Run Drive

Arlington, VA 22206

Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm, Saturday 8:00am-12:00pm

(866) 368-5463 or (800) 435-5137

#### Please note:

**First time drivers** must hold a learner's permit for 30 days before applying for a license. After which, you will need to pass a written knowledge exam, road skills test and an eye exam before receiving a license.

**To convert an out-of-state driver's license**, please provide your old license, proof of residency, social security number, ability to drive and identification. Please note you will be required to pass a vision test and surrender your previous license.

**To convert a Canadian, French or German license**, you may not be required to take the two-part knowledge exam or the road skills test, show proof of successful completion of driver's education or hold a learner's permit for 30 days. Please note, you will be required to pass a vision test and surrender your Canadian license. (Be sure to photocopy before surrendering for insurance purposes!)

**To convert any other foreign license**, you may not be required to show proof of successful completion of driver education or hold a learner's permit for 30 days, but you must pass the two-part knowledge exam, road skills test and a vision screening.

### TO OBTAIN A DRIVER'S LICENSE IN MARYLAND

For complete information, please visit <http://www.marylandmva.com/DriverServ/Apply/license.htm>

Please visit the DMV office in Gaithersburg, Maryland

15 Metropolitan Grove Rd

Gaithersburg, MD 20878

(800) 950-1682

or Silver Spring, Maryland

2131 Industrial Parkway

Silver Spring, MD 20904

(800) 950-1682

**All non-US citizens applying for a Maryland driver's license must schedule an appointment** by calling 1-800-950-1682. Appointments are scheduled Monday through Friday at one of the regional offices. Please make an appointment well in advance because it could take several months to arrange one.

**First time drivers** must hold a learner's permit for four months, and pass a vision, written knowledge and road skills tests before applying for a driver's license.

**To convert a foreign license** without a U.S. license, you are required to take a 3-hour drug and alcohol awareness course prior to your appointment. Please bring the certificate to your appointment and note: there is a fee for this course. You are also required to take a vision, written knowledge and road skills tests.

**To convert an out-of-state license**, please provide your old license, proof of residency, age, identification and social security number. You will be required to pass a vision test and surrender your previous license, but you are not required to take the drug and alcohol course. If your out-of-state license has been expired for more than one year, you will be required to pass a written knowledge exam and road skills test. Please note, if you are presenting an out-of-state license with foreign issued documents, you will be required to schedule an appointment.

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