



COLORADO DRIVER'S LICENSE AND STATE ID INFORMATION

Do not apply until you have been in the U.S. for two weeks! International Driver's Licenses may be used for up to 30 days. After that, you must obtain a Colorado Driver's License. Canadian, German, French, Taiwanese, and South Korean Driver's Licenses as well as all other U.S. state licenses are honored in Colorado and may be "traded" for a Colorado License.

To Obtain a Colorado Driver's License or State ID:

1. Visit the Colorado Department of Motor Vehicles at one of their many locations in Colorado Springs. The nearest to UCCS are at 2447 N Union Blvd, and 1675 W Garden of the Gods Rd.
2. Take your immigration documents:
 - Valid passport with visa
 - Most recent I-94 record (<https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/>)
 - Most recent UCCS I-20 or DS-2019
 - EAD card if on OPT or Authorization Letter if on Academic Training
 - Make sure your SEVIS record is 'ACTIVE' (email international@uccs.edu)
 - SSN card, or SSN denial (Form SSA-L676) – Request SSN denial letter from the UCCS International Affairs Office
3. Proof of connection to Colorado Springs. Take two of the following items:
 - Statements or bills with your name and Colorado Springs address on it (for example: utilities, credit card bill or bank statement).
 - UCCS enrollment verification letter. To do this, you must update your local address in the student portal. Then, on the UCCS home page, search "Forms," click "Student Forms," and fill out the "Enrollment Verification Form." In the "Comment" section, request that it be on letterhead with your address verification.

STOP here if all you need is a State ID. CONTINUE: if you are getting a Driver's License

4. Study the Driver's Handbook
 - *Note: This is not required for holders of Canadian, French, German, Taiwanese, South Korean or other U.S. State Driver's Licenses – BUT THE DMV WILL INVALIDATE YOUR HOME COUNTRY LICENSE, if you wish to keep that license, you must take all the tests.*
 - The Colorado Drivers Handbook can be found at <https://driving-tests.org/colorado/co-dmv-drivers-handbook-manual/>
5. Get Learner's Permit from the DMV and begin practicing
6. Schedule appointment for the driving test and bring:
 - Proof of insurance for the car in which you will take your driving test
 - Immigration and other documents listed above in #2 and #3

Important Notes:

- Insurance is REQUIRED for anyone who will own and drive a vehicle and is RECOMMENDED for all drivers even if they do not own a vehicle.
- Your Colorado Driver's License will be issued for the dates on your I-20 or DS-2019 and will be mailed to you. There will be no grace period on your license.
- To renew your Driver's License, take all items in # 3, plus your I-20 or DS-2019 with your new program end date OR your EAD for OPT to the DMV.

International Affairs

- Obtaining a driver's license and/or state ID does not grant authorization to vote in any election. Voting in any election within the U.S. could have serious impacts to your immigration status.

REMEMBER: The DMV is VERY busy! They can help you better if you take all necessary documents and are patient with them.

Helpful Links:

Main Page for Colorado DMV: <https://www.colorado.gov/dmv>

Information for applicants coming to Colorado from another country:
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dmv/new-colorado-another-country>

Driver's Handbook: <https://driving-tests.org/colorado/co-dmv-drivers-handbook-manual/>

Online appointments: <https://dmv.colorado.gov/AppointmentScheduling>

Fees: <https://www.colorado.gov/dmv/dmv-fees>

FAQs: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dmv/faq-driver-license>

Identification requirements: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dmv/identification-requirement-charts>

**This information is prepared as a service of UCCS International Affairs and is subject to change without notice. Please confirm all instructions online prior to your application, as the state of Colorado may make changes to requirements without notice.

International Affairs

Copper House 9202 • 1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy • Colorado Springs, CO 80918
t 719-255-5018 • Email: international@uccs.edu • Website: uccs.edu/international