

How to Obtain a New Jersey Driver's License

Prior to issuing any document, the Motor Vehicle Commission will use the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) system to verify the immigration status of all non-citizens who apply for or renew a driver's license or non-driver ID at an agency. If legal immigration status cannot be confirmed, the document will not be issued.

Step I. Before you go to the Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) office, register for your classes and contact the International Education Center to make sure that your SEVIS record is currently active.

Step II. Social Security Denial Letter. Only individuals who are working are eligible to receive a social security number (SSN). This means that unless you have a campus job or you have worked legally prior to obtaining F-1 status, you will not have an SSN. However, you may still apply for a driver's license if you have a "denial letter" from the Social Security Administration office.

To obtain a SSN denial letter, go to the Social Security Administration office and bring the following documents:

- ✓ **Valid Passport;**
- ✓ **I-94 "Arrival/Departure Record"** or I-797 Change of Status approval notice;
- ✓ **Form I-20;**
- ✓ **Unofficial Transcript and/or current class schedule from Brookdale Community College (you can print from Webadvisor);**
- ✓ **Verification of Enrollment Letter on school letterhead** (request at International Student Center, MAC 114).

To find the nearest Social Security Administration Office, visit www.ssa.gov. For additional information about the SSN and international students visit <http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10181.pdf>.

Step III. Documents Needed by the MVC. In order to obtain a license or a state identification card at MVC, you must prove your identity by passing the 6 Point ID Verification. To select the correct documents, we recommend you visit Online Document Selector: <http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/Licenses/DocumentSelector/index.htm>

Our suggestions for your primary and secondary identity documents are:

- ✓ **Valid Passport** (4 points);
- ✓ **BCC Identification Card and your transcript or, if it is your first semester at Brookdale, the registration payment receipt.** Make sure that your address on the receipt is correct. (2 points).

When you go to MVC, you also need to bring the documents that prove your legal presence in US:

- ✓ **I-94 “Arrival/Departure Record”** , or I-797 Change of Status approval notice;
- ✓ **Form I-20** (If you are a transfer student, make sure that your I-20 says “continued attendance” and not “transfer pending”);
- ✓ **Paid Receipt for the current semester** (make sure that your address on the receipt is correct);
- ✓ **Unofficial transcript from BCC** and/or current class schedule (you can print it from Webadvisor);
- ✓ **Enrollment Verification Letter** on school letterhead (request at International Student Center, MAC 114);
- ✓ **Proof of Address in the USA** (your Brookdale tuition statement bill can be printed from Webadvisor).
- ✓ **Social Security Card OR the denial letter from the Social Security Administration**

Note:

You may use your country's driver license as proof of driving experience if you have an International Driver Permit issued by your country *or* if your country is a member of the United Nations Convention on Road Traffic and your license is translated into English by a consulate or an MVC approved translator.

You are not required to surrender your foreign license when MVC issues your New Jersey driver license.

To visit the official NJ Motor Vehicle Commission website, go to: <http://www.nj.gov/mvc/>. For a listing of the local MVC offices, go to <http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/Location>