In need of secure, trusted, and reliable identification?

Get STARted

In response to acts of terrorism committed against the United States, and in an effort to ensure the safety of citizens, Congress passed the REAL-ID Act of 2005. This legislation modified U.S. federal law pertaining to security, authentication, and issuance procedure standards for state driver licenses and identification cards.

In order to comply with the requirements of this federal legislation, the Alabama Department of Public Safety has developed the STAR I.D. program. STAR I.D. is a step beyond an ordinary Alabama driver license or non-driver identification card, and it fully meets all requirements of federal law.

Once the provision of the REAL-ID goes into effect, those persons who do not possess a valid, unexpired U.S. passport will need a STAR I.D. to board commercial aircraft for domestic flights or to enter certain regulated federal facilities.

New regulations will go into effect Dec. 1, 2014, for people born after Dec. 1, 1964. For people born on or before that date, new regulations will be effective Dec. 1, 2017.

STAR I.D. is available to qualified individuals at any Driver License examining office operated by the Alabama Department of Public Safety. County probate judges and license commissioners will continue to renew standard licenses and ID cards, but they are not authorized to issue or renew a STAR I.D.

Additional documentation will be required to verify identity, date of birth and authorized presence in the United States. For more information and a complete list of required documents, visit the Alabama Department of Public Safety's website at dps.alabama.gov or call 877.567.1045.