How to Obtain a Driver’s License

You must have a valid driver’s license in order to operate a vehicle in Utah. If you have a permit from your home country, it is only valid for 6 months. To continue driving in Utah legally after this time, you will need to obtain a Utah driver’s license.

Obtaining a driver’s license or a Utah State Identification Card is recommended because it can also be used as a form of identification in the United States. This means you do not need to carry your passport with you at all times.

How to Apply for a Driver’s License

1. Collect the required documents:
   - Unexpired passport with visa inside
   - I-94 document
   - I-20 or DS-2019
   - Social Security card (if you are not eligible, you must obtain a letter from the Social Security office indicating ineligibility)
   - 2 documents that verify your Utah residency and mailing address (these must display your name and address and can be bank statements, rental contract, utility bill, vehicle title, etc.)
   - Proof of driving experience (your home country driver’s license or proof that you completed a driver’s education course in Utah)

2. Schedule an appointment or visit a driver license office. You will need to complete an application, which you can do online or at the office.

3. At your appointment, you will need to pass an eye test, have your photo taken, complete a medical questionnaire, and pass a written test and/or driving test.

4. You can find more information about obtaining your driver’s license here: https://dld.utah.gov

Updated 05/27/2020 CAC
How to Apply for a Utah State Identification Card

If you’re not interested in driving in Utah, you may also obtain a state ID card. This can be used for identification purposes but does not allow you to drive a car. More information about getting a state ID can be found here: https://dld.utah.gov/licensingid-cards/identification-card/.

Disclaimer: International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) provides support and information related to U.S. immigration laws and regulations related to F and J status at the University of Utah. For legal advice on immigration matters please consult a qualified immigration attorney. For a list of local Utah attorneys please visit our website here.