LAW ENFORCEMENT GUIDE FOR NON-U.S. DRIVER LICENSES
Process for Drivers Presenting Non-U.S. Driver Licenses

Traffic Stop

Presented Non-U.S. Driver License

Does Your State Require an International Driving Permit (IDP)? (See Explanation)

No

Examine Non-U.S. Driver License

Check Canadian and Mexican CDL Document through Nlets. Do Documents Appear Genuine and Un-altered?

Yes

Take Appropriate Enforcement Action

No

Examine Document Security Features

May Require Further Examination of Other Identification Such As: Employment Authorization Card, I-94, Passport, or Permanent Resident Card (See Description)

Take Appropriate Enforcement Action or Seek Additional Assistance

Yes

Examine IDP & Non-U.S. Driver License

Check Canadian and Mexican CDL Document through Nlets. Do Documents Appear Genuine and Un-altered?

Yes

Take Appropriate Enforcement Action

NCIC and/or Fusion Center

(See Explanation)
INTERNATIONAL DRIVING PERMIT

An International Driving Permit (IDP) is not a form of identification. It translates a foreign national’s home country driver license and must be accompanied by the vehicle operator’s home country license. Some states may require an IDP to operate a motor vehicle, check with your state driver licensing agency for verification.

WARNING: FAKE INTERNATIONAL DRIVER LICENSES (THERE ARE MANY VARIETIES)

U.S. state and provincial governments do not issue international driver licenses. International driver licenses are novelty cards and should not be accepted as an official license. For more information visit: https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0050-international-drivers-license-scams

AUTHENTICATING GOVERNMENT-ISSUED DRIVER LICENSES

Four step process of document examination:
(1) Remove the card from any holder; (2) Review the card and note security features; (3) Feel the card for durability and tampering; (4) Examine the card security features for authenticity. Use of a magnifying glass, bright light, and ultraviolet light is beneficial.

Words, images, and seals on card should be crisp and sharp, normally displaying information about the jurisdiction of card issuance. The photo should have overlapping information to protect the image and should have no evidence of tampering. The card material should be pliable and free of damage.

For more information and training on examining identification visit: https://www.aamva.org/FDR-Training/.

U.S. TRAVEL AND IDENTITY DOCUMENTS

Information about identity documents issued by the U.S. government that permit a foreign national to reside in the United States can be found in the Guide to Selected U.S. Travel and Identity Documents, obtained from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations Forensic Laboratory at www.cbp.gov.

FOREIGN NATIONAL PASSPORT

The primary purpose of a Foreign National Passport is to permit foreign nationals to travel in the U.S., establishing their identity and citizenship as well as to display visas and entry stamps when necessary.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN DIPLOMAT DRIVER LICENSE

These driver licenses are issued to members of the Foreign Mission Community. These licenses can be queried by law enforcement through Nlets, The International Justice and Public Safety Network. For more information visit: https://www.state.gov/ofm/dmv/driver/index.htm.
OUR VISION

Safe drivers
Safe vehicles
Secure identities
Saving lives!

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