

LAW ENFORCEMENT mDL TECHNOLOGY TOOLKIT

Portfolio Overview & Guide to the Document Series

ISO/IEC 18013-5 Compliant Mobile Driver License Adoption for Law Enforcement

Prepared by	American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA)
Version	1.0 April 2026
Standard	ISO/IEC 18013-5 (In-Person mDL) ISO/IEC 18013-7 (Online mDL)

About This Toolkit

The Law Enforcement mDL Technology Toolkit is a modular portfolio of standalone guidance documents designed to support law enforcement agencies at every stage of planning for and adopting ISO/IEC 18013-5 compliant Mobile Driver License (mDL) verification technology. Each document in the series stands alone and is designed for a specific audience — from frontline officers to procurement officers to legal counsel.

The toolkit was developed recognizing that different personnel within an agency need different information at different times. A training officer does not need the same level of technical detail as an IT director; a grant writer does not need the same operational guidance as a patrol sergeant. By structuring the toolkit as a series of modular documents, agencies can distribute exactly the right guidance to the right audience without requiring everyone to read a single large document.

Core Principle

It is not enough for an officer to simply read an mDL with a verifier device. The officer should be able to use a device to authenticate and read the mDL and then leverage that data to run additional queries and populate reports such as e-citations, crash reports, vehicle tow logs, and arrest reports. Every document in this series is written with that integrated workflow vision in mind.

How to Use This Toolkit

This Portfolio Overview document serves as the master index for the toolkit series. Use it to identify which documents are most relevant to your role or current planning phase. Each document is self-contained — you do not need to read other documents in the series to use any individual document, though cross-references are provided where relevant.

- Executives and command staff should begin with DOC-01 (Standards Overview) and DOC-07 (Legal & Privacy Considerations).
- Technology and IT officers should focus on DOC-02 (Hardware & Software Requirements) and DOC-03 (Available Devices & Software).
- Procurement and finance staff should review DOC-05 (Procurement) and DOC-06 (Funding).
- Training officers should use DOC-08 (Training Plan Framework) as the foundation for their agency's mDL training program.
- All patrol personnel and supervisors should receive DOC-04 (Operational Workflows) and DOC-09 (FAQ).

Document Series Index

Doc #	Title	Description	Primary Audience
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DOC-01	Standards Overview	ISO/IEC 18013-5 & 18013-7, AAMVA guidelines, and the national mDL landscape	All Leaders & Technologists
DOC-02	Hardware & Software Requirements	Technical baseline specifications and integration architecture for compliant mDL verification	Technology Officers & IT Staff
DOC-03	Available Devices & Software	Market landscape of reader apps, ruggedized hardware, CAD/FBR providers, and SDKs	Procurement & Technology Officers
DOC-04	Operational Workflows	Step-by-step officer guidance for traffic stops, citations, arrests, and downstream data use	Officers, Supervisors & Training Staff
DOC-05	Procurement Considerations & Strategy	Solicitation requirements, contract language, adoption pathways, and total cost of ownership	Procurement Officers & Command Staff
DOC-06	Funding Strategies & Opportunities	DOJ (JAG/COPS/FEMA), USDOT/FMCSA (MCSAP, HP-ITD, HP-CMV, HP-ETS), NHTSA (Section 402, 405(c)), cooperative purchasing, and OpEx models	Grant Writers & Finance Staff
DOC-07	Legal & Privacy Considerations	State acceptance law, data minimization, CJIS compliance, and Fourth Amendment guidance	Legal Counsel & Command Staff
DOC-08	Training Plan Framework	Curriculum outline, delivery formats, and competency framework for agency-wide mDL training	Training Officers & Supervisors
DOC-09	mDL FAQ for Law Enforcement	Plain-language answers to the most common officer questions about mDL technology and procedures	All Law Enforcement Personnel

Planned Future Additions

The following resources are planned for inclusion in future versions of this toolkit:

- **DOC-10: Video Training Resource** — A short-form video demonstrating the mDL verification workflow for officer training
- **DOC-11: Agency Testimonials** — Case studies and first-person accounts from early-adopter law enforcement agencies
- **DOC-12: Vendor Comparison Matrix** — A side-by-side evaluation framework for comparing mDL reader solutions

Background: The mDL Landscape for Law Enforcement

Mobile Driver Licenses (mDLs) are digital representations of driver's license information stored securely on a holder's smartphone and presented via Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE), Near-Field Communication (NFC), or QR code. Unlike a photo of a physical license, a standards-compliant mDL is cryptographically signed by the issuing state DMV, making it substantially more resistant to fraud and counterfeiting than physical credentials.

As of April 2026, 21 U.S. states plus Puerto Rico have active mDL programs recognized by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). An estimated 76% of Americans live in states that have adopted or are piloting mDL programs. Multiple identity credential service providers, as well as Apple Wallet, Samsung Wallet, and Google Wallet support mDLs in multiple states, dramatically accelerating the pace at which officers will encounter digital credentials during routine interactions.

Legislative Momentum

Georgia's HB 296 (2025) mandated that law enforcement officers accept mDLs during traffic stops when equipped with a reader, and required all Georgia law enforcement officers to receive mDL readers by July 1, 2027. Similar legislation is emerging in other states. Agencies that plan proactively will be better positioned than those that wait for a legislative mandate.

The Three-Party Model

Every mDL transaction involves three parties, and law enforcement officers fill the role of the Verifier (also called the Relying Party):

- **Holder:** The driver or pedestrian who possesses the mDL on their mobile device. The holder controls what data is shared and must actively consent to each transaction.
- **Issuing Authority:** The state DMV or equivalent agency that issued the credential and cryptographically signed it. The Issuing Authority's public keys, distributed through AAMVA's Digital Trust Service, allow any authorized reader to verify the credential's authenticity.
- **Verifier / Relying Party:** The law enforcement officer and their reader device. The verifier requests specific data elements, receives the holder's consent-gated response, and cryptographically validates the credential. The verifier never needs to handle the holder's device.

Key Standards Referenced in This Toolkit

Standard / Program	Relevance to Law Enforcement
ISO/IEC 18013-5:2021	Governs all in-person (proximity) mDL verification — the primary standard for traffic stops and field encounters. A revised edition (DIS) is in process.

ISO/IEC TS 18013-7:2025	Governs online/remote mDL verification. Relevant for future remote identification workflows and software systems with multi-year lifecycles.
AAMVA mDL Implementation Guidelines v1.6 (July 2026)	AAMVA's North America-specific guidance expanding on ISO/IEC 18013-5, defining data elements and privacy requirements for the U.S. and Canadian mDL ecosystem.
FBI CJIS Security Policy	Governs the handling of Criminal Justice Information by law enforcement systems — applies to any mDL reader or software that interfaces with NCIC/CIC queries or RMS data.
FMCSA MCSAP & High Priority Grant Programs	Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration formula and competitive grants for CMV enforcement technology. Directly applicable to agencies with motor carrier inspection programs — mDL readers speed CDL verification and improve MCMIS inspection data quality.
NHTSA Section 402 & Section 405(c)	NHTSA highway safety formula grants administered through State Highway Safety Offices (SHSOs) and Traffic Records Coordinating Committees (TRCCs). Section 405(c) specifically funds crash data quality improvements — a direct fit for mDL-integrated crash reporting.
MMUCC — Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria (6th ed., 2025)	NHTSA's national standard for crash report data elements. mDL-sourced identity data in crash reports improves MMUCC compliance by eliminating manual transcription errors in critical fields.

Key Contacts & Resources

AAMVA Resources

- **AAMVA mDL Program Hub:** aamva.org/topics/mobile-driver-license
- **AAMVA mDL Implementation Guidelines v1.6:** aamva.org/getmedia/1bc1f2b3-bc7b-4e44-8112-127a4110ad94/mDLImplementationGuidelines-16.pdf
- **AAMVA mDL FAQ for Law Enforcement:** aamva.org/law-enforcement/mobile-driver-license-faq
- **AAMVA mDL Model Legislation:** aamva.org/policy/legislation/model-legislation
- **AAMVA Digital Trust Service:** aamva.org/topics/mobile-driver-license

Federal Resources

- **ISO/IEC 18013-5 Standard:** iso.org/standard/69084.html
- **FBI CJIS Security Policy:** le.fbi.gov/cjis-resources
- **DOJ Grants Program Plan:** justice.gov/dojgrantsprogramplan
- **BJA Funding Opportunities:** bja.ojp.gov/funding/current
- **COPS Office Grants:** cops.usdoj.gov/grants

USDOT — FMCSA Resources

- **FMCSA Grant Programs Hub:** fmcsa.dot.gov/grants

- **MCSAP Formula Grant Program:** ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Grants/MCSAP.aspx
- **HP-ITD Innovative Technology Deployment Grant:** ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Grants/ITD.aspx
- **HP-CMV & HP-ETS High Priority Grants:** ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Grants/HighPriority.aspx
- **FMCSA Grants Resource Center:** ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Grants/ResourceCenter/Results

USDOT — NHTSA Resources

- **NHTSA Highway Safety Grants Program:** nhtsa.gov/highway-safety-grants-program
- **Section 405(c) Traffic Records Grant (via GHSA):** ghsa.org/resource-hub/section-405-national-priority-safety-program
- **Traffic Records Coordinating Committees (TRCCs):**
transportation.gov/government/traffic-records
- **MMUCC — Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria (6th ed.):**
crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov (DOT HS 813 525a)
- **NHTSA Traffic Records Data Quality Management Guide:** crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov (DOT HS 813 544)

Industry & Peer Organizations

- **IACP Policy Center:** theiacp.org/policycenter
- **Police Executive Research Forum (PERF):** policeforum.org
- **mDL Connection (Secure Technology Alliance):** mdlconnection.com