

## **Registration and Title Bulletin #001-26**

### **Policy and Procedure**

February 18, 2026

**TO:** All County Tax Assessor-Collectors and Motor Vehicle Dealers

**SUBJECT:** Identification Requirements for Vehicle Registration Transactions

---

### **PURPOSE & DETAILS**

This bulletin explains new identification (ID) requirements for vehicle registration transactions adopted by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) board in 43 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 217.

The revisions apply to **both initial registration and registration renewal transactions but have different effective dates.**

However:

- The new ID requirements for **initial registration** take effect on **March 5, 2026.**
- The new ID requirements for **registration renewals** do not take effect until **January 1, 2027.**

Until January 1, 2027, counties should process registration renewals under the ID procedures that were in place prior to November 18, 2025.

---

## Title & Initial Registration Transaction Types Chart

Use the chart below to determine which ID standard applies.

Transaction Type	Is ID required for title purposes?	Is ID required for initial registration purposes?	Acceptable ID
Standard Initial Registration (Including Registration Purposes Only – RPO)	Yes	Yes	List A
Title Only (No Registration)	Yes	No	List B
Off-Highway (Titled without registration)	Yes	No	List B
Exempt Vehicles	Yes	No	List B
IRP (Apportioned)	N/A	No	List B
Non-Resident Agricultural Permit	N/A	Yes	List B
Annual Permits	N/A	Yes	List B
72-Hour and 144-Hour Permits	N/A	Yes	List B
Temporary Registration Plate (One-Trip and 30-Day)	N/A	Yes	List B
Alternate Registration (Fertilizer, Seasonal Ag, Soil Conservation, Farm – Motor Vehicles and Trailers)	Yes	Yes	List B
Rental Trailers	Yes	Yes	List B
Commercial Registration (City Bus, Combination, Cotton, Forestry, Motor Bus, Token Trailer, Tow Truck)	Yes	Yes	List B

---

**List A - Acceptable ID for Transactions**

One of the following:

- Valid, unexpired REAL ID-compliant driver's license or state ID from any state or territory of the United States
- Without REAL ID – Valid, unexpired driver's license or state ID that does not meet REAL ID requirements, issued by state that requires proof of legal presence: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming
- Without REAL ID – Valid, unexpired driver's license or state ID that does not meet REAL ID requirements issued by any state or territory of the United States, PLUS:
  - U.S. birth certificate,
  - Certificate of Naturalization, or
  - Certificate of Citizenship
- Valid, unexpired U.S. passport
- Valid, unexpired foreign passport PLUS:
  - Form I-94 (Not in Parole status),
  - Current permanent resident card, or
  - Unexpired immigrant visa from the United States Department of Homeland Security
- Valid, unexpired Texas License to Carry a Handgun issued by TxDPS

---

**List B – Acceptable Photo ID for Transactions**

- Driver's license or ID issued by a U.S. state or territory
- Texas License to Carry a Handgun issued by TxDPS
- U.S. passport

- Foreign passport
- U.S. military ID
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) ID
- ID issued under a Status of Forces Agreement
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ID
- U.S. Department of State ID
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services ID

**Note:** Only List B acceptable forms of ID can be expired up to 12 months.

---

Definitions as defined in 217.22:

- A “REAL ID” is the minimum document requirements and issuance standards for federal recognition under the REAL ID Act of 2005, Public Law 109-13.
- A “United States birth certificate” is an original or certified copy of a birth certificate issued by the appropriate vital statistics agency of a United States state, territory, or the District of Columbia indicating birth in the United States; or an original or a certified copy of a United States government-issued document indicating birth of a child born abroad to a United States citizen, including a Consular Report of Birth or Department of State Certification of Birth issued to a U.S. Citizen born abroad (FS 240, DS-1350, or FS 545).
- A “Valid passport” is an unexpired passport or passport card issued by the United States government; or an unexpired passport issued by the government of another country accompanied by one of the following documents issued by the United States Department of Homeland Security:
  - Form I-94, unless the Form I-94 shows that the bearer only has Parole status;
  - a current permanent resident card; or
  - an unexpired immigrant visa issued by the United States Department of Homeland Security.

---

## AGENT ID REQUIREMENTS

If an agent submits an application that includes registration on behalf of a business, trust, or leasing company:

- The agent must present their own photo ID.
- The agent's ID must meet the ID requirements shown in List B.

---

## IMPORTANT CLARIFICATIONS

**Military Applicants** are required to adhere to ID requirements identified in the chart above based on transaction type.

### Non-Titled Vehicles

The following are **not subject to these ID requirements**:

- Machinery plates
- Permit plates
- Frac tank plates
- Other registration classes issued with the "MISC" vehicle class

---

## COUNTY & DEALER ACTION

Effective immediately, **until March 5, 2026**, follow historical, pre-existing ID requirements in-use prior to November 2025.

Beginning March 5, 2026:

- Verify ID for all applicable initial registrations.
- Use List A or List B to determine the correct ID standard for initial registration.

The requirements defined in this RTB supersede previous communications on ID requirements distributed in November 2025.

Training sessions for counties and dealers related to initial registration ID requirements will be provided by the department. System programming and additional information regarding procedural changes will be provided as available.

---

## **QUESTIONS**

Contact your local TxDMV Regional Service Center for assistance.

---

Annette Quintero  
Division Director  
Vehicle Titles and Registration Division  
Texas Department of Motor Vehicles