



Homeless Child or Youth Identification Card Fact Sheet

July 2020

A homeless child or youth, as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a, may obtain a Texas identification card (ID):

- At no cost if funding is available in the Identification Fee Exemption Account
- Without meeting the standard Texas residency requirements to obtain an ID
- Without the signature, presence of, or permission from a parent or guardian of the child or youth

Under 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a the term “homeless children and youths” means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes:

- (i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;
- (ii) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- (iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- (iv) migratory children who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this part because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii) above.

An individual can be certified as a homeless child or youth by:

- A designated district liaison with the school district where the child/youth listed above is enrolled
- The director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funding by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
- The director of a basic center for runaway and homeless youth or
- The director of a transitional living program

All Homeless Children and Youth Original Identification Card (ID) Applicants Must:

- Apply in person at a Texas driver license (DL) office.
- Present documents that verify the applicant’s [identity](#).
- Present documents that verify the applicant is a [U.S. citizen or has lawful presence](#). All information on each document must match. Additional documentation may be required to verify conflicting information, incomplete names, and/or date of birth.
- Surrender any other DL or ID issued by any other state or country, including Texas.
- Present proof of [social security number](#) (SSN). If the applicant does not have a SSN, a Social Security Affidavit form is available at the DL office.
- Complete the application for an identification card for minor ([DL-14B](#)).
- Present proof of [Texas residency](#).
 - Eligible homeless children and youth will present the *Certification of Homeless Status for Texas Birth Certificate and Texas Identification Card and Driver’s License* (sample form available at texasfosteryouth.org/legal-resources/legal-resources-for-youth/legal-documents/) or letter with equivalent information as required by Texas Transportation Code §521.1015.
- Consent to be photographed, fingerprinted, and provide a signature at the time of application.

For more information about Texas Identification Card Issuance please visit:

<http://www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense/applyforID.htm>