

Background

Previously, the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles used an over-the-counter process to produce driver licenses and state IDs in each of the field offices for qualified applicants. Customers applied and left with their driver's license or ID card in hand on the same day.

Today, Nevada issues state driver's licenses and IDs using a central issuance system. Citizens who apply for their driver's license/ID card will now receive an interim document. All permanent Nevada state driver's license/IDs are produced in a highly secure central facility and mailed to the applicant within 10 business days.

This fact sheet is designed to inform you of the new process and the benefits of centrally issued driver's licenses and state IDs.

FACT SHEET

Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles

Centrally Issued Driver's Licenses



Las Vegas area: 702.486.4368
Reno/Sparks/Carson City area: 775.684.4368
Rural Nevada area: 877.368.7828

FACT SHEET

Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles

Centrally Issued Driver's Licenses



This fact sheet is designed to inform you of the new process and the benefits of centrally issued driver's licenses and state IDs.

Overview

Central Issuance: An Overview

Centrally issued driver's licenses and state IDs are produced from a secure facility and mailed to valid cardholders a few days later, after an applicant's identity is verified. For driver's license applicants, the only change is that they receive an interim (temporary) document in a DMV office before receiving their permanent driver's license or ID card in the mail. Customers experience a quicker visit to the DMV because interim documents print much more quickly than the permanent driver's license or ID cards.

Trend Toward Central Issuance

In all, 14 states in the U.S. issue driver's licenses in centralized factories and more agencies are considering moving to central issuance because of the security and public safety benefits. According to a 2006 Federal Trade Commission report, identity theft cost consumers an estimated \$5 billion and businesses a staggering \$48 billion between 2003 and 2005. Another cost of driver's license/ID fraud is underage drinking and driving, reported at \$53 billion in 2004 by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. In addition to the financial loss, it is estimated that in 2002 it took consumers approximately 297 million hours to resolve identity theft issues.¹

¹ Federal Trade Commission, *Overview of Identity Theft Program*, Sept. 7, 2003.

When considering the cost of identity theft to citizens and businesses, most people welcome a more secure method of issuing driver's licenses and state IDs. Ensuring that only one valid driver's license or ID card is issued to each legitimate card holder helps prevent identity theft and fraud.

Secure Delivery of a Highly Secure Driver's License/ID

Issuing state driver's licenses and IDs from a single location offers a highly secure method for producing identity documents. All card materials, including mail, are stored in a secure vault that requires certain controls and two people to access. All employees working in the factory must undergo extensive background checks and security clearances. The mailing process is similar to that used by the financial services industry, where everyone receives credit cards and debit cards in the mail. All cards are secured in the mailers so that they will not fall out, even if the envelope flap is opened. The driver's license, instruction permit, and identification card will be in an envelope with no indication that a driver's license, driver's permit, or identification card is inside. They will not be forwarded if undeliverable to the address given to the DMV at the time of issuance but, instead, will be returned to the DMV.

Citizen and Public Safety Benefits of Central Issuance

Issuing driver's licenses and state IDs from a secure, centralized facility offers many public safety, security and customer service advantages above an over-the-counter system, including:

- Reduces driver's license fraud and identity theft, helps combat terrorism and enhances traffic safety by providing time to cross-check and verify applicant information and ensure that driver's licenses/ IDs are only issued to legitimate cardholders.
- Reduces the time it takes to process a driver's license/ID application – sometimes as much as 50 percent – by eliminating wait times to issue a driver's license/ID card from a branch office.
- Prevents loss and theft of secure materials from local branch offices by centralizing production in a highly secure facility.

Questions?

If you have questions about Nevada's new process, visit our website at www.dmvnv.com.

Las Vegas area:

702.486.4368

Reno/Sparks

Carson City area:

775.684.4368

Rural Nevada area:

877.368.7828

