

# DRIVER'S LICENSES, CARS, ETC...



Contact the Registry of Motor Vehicles ([RMV](#)) *directly* with any questions you may have regarding driver's licenses, application procedures, car registrations, etc.

## **Using a Foreign License in Massachusetts**

The [RMV in Massachusetts](#) recognizes all foreign driver's licenses if certain conditions are met:

- Must be at least 16 years of age.
- Must be in possession of a valid driver's license when operating a motor vehicle in Massachusetts.
- May operate a motor vehicle in Massachusetts of the same type in which licensed to operate in any other state or country.
- If the foreign license is not in English or does not have an English translation, must have one of the following:
  - An International Driving Permit (IDP) (you can only acquire this in your home country) **\*An International Driver's License is not sufficient.**
  - [A Translation into English of a Foreign License document](#) ([UMass Translation Center](#) can assist with this for a fee)
- An alternative translation document that contains a photo and English translation that closely matches the information from an IDP
- Must not be suspended or revoked.

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## **How to Obtain a Massachusetts Driver's License**

**Your immigration document must be valid for a stay of at least 12 months to be eligible.**

Applicants over age 18 are eligible to apply for a driver's license at any RMV office—click [here](#) for directions to **116 Pleasant Street, Easthampton.**

### **Application Process:**

1. Click [here](#) to start online the process online and print out the QR code to take to the RMV with your documents
2. Click [here](#) to view required Documents (they cannot be laminated)
  - Passport, visa, immigration document, and [I-94](#)
  - Proof of Residency: lease agreements, bank statements, utility bill, etc.
  - [Social Security Card](#) or denial letter\*
3. Take items from #1 and #2 to RMV to complete a Permit Exam and an eye exam
4. Pass a Road Test at the RMV and receive your driver's license in the mail within a few weeks.

**\*DENIAL NOTICE:** For those people not eligible for a Social Security Number, you must still **APPLY** for a Social Security Number and ask for a denial notice from Social Security Administration. The denial notice must be submitted to the Registry instead of the Social Security Number **AND BE DATED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF SUBMISSION.**

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## **Purchasing a Car = Expensive Process**

Must pay:

- Cost of car plus sales tax (currently at 6.25%)
- Fee for Car Registration, Title, and Car Inspection (annual cost)
- Excise Tax (an annual tax based on the value of your car)
- Car Insurance (mandatory in Massachusetts and quite expensive)