

Procedure for Getting a Driver's License

International Driving Permit

The State of California **does not** recognize an International Driving Permit (IDP) as a valid driver license. The International Driver's Permit is also referred to as an International Driver's License or International License.

Application Process

To apply for a driver's license, students must be enrolled full-time and pay the SEVIS fee. If not, there will be significant problems and delays with your application.

Most schools do not do SEVIS class registration until approximately ONE WEEK **AFTER** the ADD/DROP date for class registration since they have to have final, confirmed class registration.

1. Students who have a driver's license from their home country may be exempt from the driving skills test. The DMV requires that you present the **ORIGINALS** of all immigration documents: passport, printout of your I-94 Arrival/Departure record and I-20 or DS-2019. Your passport or I-20/DS-2019 **CANNOT** expire less than 60 days from the date of application. You will also need to show **two** forms of address proof. Some of these include a bank document from a US bank showing your name and address, your medical insurance card with name and address, a utility bill, a cellphone bill, mail to your home, etc. **If these documents expire in less than 60 days, you cannot apply.** Be sure to bring your driver's license from your home country to present to the officer at the DMV as it may exempt you from the driving test.
2. Fill-out an application form at the DMV.
3. If you do not have a Social Security Number (SSN) and are not in the process of applying for one, mark on the DMV application that you are **not** eligible for a SSN. You are only eligible for a SSN if you have a job offer for authorized paid on-campus or off-campus employment.
4. OIS strongly advises students/scholars to visit the Hope Street DMV office on Thursdays and Fridays after 1pm.
5. Students who have problems with their application should record the name of the DMV employee(s) you spoke with and make an appointment to meet with OIS for further assistance.
6. You must wait at least 30 days before calling the DMV office to inquire about your application. Most licenses will be issued within two weeks of the appointment. They cannot assist you before the 30-day window ends.

You will most likely have to take a written examination, so you should go to the DMV in Concord and get the student handbook to study. They have some foreign languages available, but not all. Good luck! *Be sure to make an appointment as it will make your experience much better!*

DMV in Concord

2070 Diamond Blvd. Concord, CA 94520

Phone: (800) 777 - 0133