



Getting a California Driver License

To Qualify:

- You must be 18 years or older.
- Be in lawful F-1 status and a current Foothill Student.
- Have a local address on file with the ISP Office.
- Arrival information must be in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) database. We recommend waiting at least 3 weeks after you arrive in the US.

Required Documents:

- Passport and visa
- I-20
- [I-94](#)
- Two residency documents (this can include a letter from the Foothill ISP Office)
[Residency Documents List](#)
- If you have a Social Security Number (SSN), you need to include it with your application.

Steps to apply:

Before your DMV appointment

1. Study for the written test. [California Driver Handbook](#)
2. Schedule an appointment on the [DMV website here](#) or by calling 1-800-777-0133.
3. Complete online [application](#).

At the DMV

1. Provide documents and pay fees.
2. Follow instructions of DMV representative. (fingerprints, vision test, picture)
3. Take your written test.

Taking your driving test (if applicable)

1. Schedule an appointment on the [DMV website here](#) or by calling 1-800-777-0133.

Receiving your driver's license

You will receive a temporary driver's license valid for 60 days while you wait for your actual driver's license to arrive in the mail. If you do not receive your driver's license in 60 days, please call 1-800-777-0133.

Additional Information:

- Find a DMV location near you: <https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/locations/>
- You are required to have auto insurance if you drive a car in California.
- If you purchase or own a car, you are required to register your car with the DMV. This registration must be renewed every year.
<https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/vehicle-registration/new-registration/>
- You can borrow a car using Zipcar: <https://www.zipcar.com/>