



How to Get Identification (ID)

Identification, or ID, is important for getting a bank account, getting a job, renting an apartment, and more. We will talk about 7 different pieces of ID.

Birth Certificate

To apply for many types of ID, you need to have a birth certificate. A birth certificate proves that you were born in Ontario. If you were born somewhere else, you need to get a birth certificate from the government where you were born.



You can apply online at www.serviceontario.ca.

If it's your first birth certificate, the fee is \$25. A replacement birth certificate is \$35. If you apply online, you will need to pay with a credit card.

You can also apply by mail. You can print an application from www.serviceontario.ca and send it in to:

Office of the Registrar General
P.O. Box 4600
189 Red River Road
Thunder Bay, ON, P7B 6L8

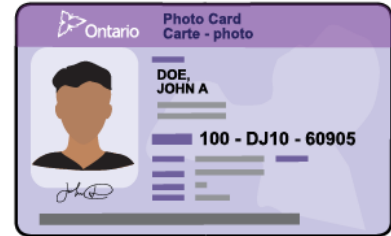
If you do not have a printer, visit your local *Healthy Kids Site*. The staff can print an application for you there.

The fees are the same by mail, but you can pay by credit card, cheque, or money order. You can get a money order from any Canada Post location. You do not need a bank account to get a money order.

If you have questions about getting a birth certificate, call 1-800-461-2156.

Ontario Photo Card

The Ontario Photo Card gives government ID to those who do not have a driver's licence. You can apply for an Ontario Photo Card if you:



- do not have a driver's licence
- are a resident of Ontario
- are 16 years of age or older

You can apply in person at a Service Ontario centre. You will need to bring:

- Original identity documents (for example, birth certificate) to prove your legal name, date of birth, and signature
- Your marriage certificate, if you are applying under your married name

The list of accepted documents can be found at

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/acceptable-identity-documents>

If you do not have ID that shows your signature, you can fill out the Declaration from a Guarantor form. This can be found on the Service Ontario website.

[https://www.forms.ssb.gov.on.ca/mbs/ssb/forms/ssbforms.nsf/GetFileAttach/023-SR-LD-040E~5/\\$File/SR-LD-040E.pdf](https://www.forms.ssb.gov.on.ca/mbs/ssb/forms/ssbforms.nsf/GetFileAttach/023-SR-LD-040E~5/$File/SR-LD-040E.pdf)

There are three Service Ontario locations in Thunder Bay:

- 400 Balmoral Place
- 435 James Street South
- 581 Red River Road

You can use an Ontario Photo Card to prove your identity when you:

- Open a new bank account
- Get a credit card
- Take a flight within Canada
- Return or rent goods
- Access other government, financial, or business services



Ontario Health Card

Your health card is what you need to show whenever you go to the doctor or the hospital as proof that you are covered under the province's health care system. It can also help you get other types of ID.



You can apply in person at your local Service Ontario office. There are three Service Ontario locations in Thunder Bay:

- 400 Balmoral Place
- 435 James Street South
- 581 Red River Road

You will need to bring a completed application which can be found at www.serviceontario.ca. You will also need 3 different documents:

1. Proof of citizenship (like a birth certificate or passport)
2. Proof of residency in Ontario (something with your name and your current address– like a pay stub, report card, lease, or utility bill)
3. Support of identity (something that has both your name and your signature – like a credit card, passport, driver's licence, student card)

The full list of accepted documents can be found here:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/documents-needed-get-health-card>

If you do not have a printer, visit your local *Healthy Kids Site*. The staff can print an application for you there.

If you have any questions about getting a health card, call 1-800-268-1154.



Social Insurance Number (SIN)

You need a SIN for getting a job and filing your income tax. You'll need a birth certificate to apply. Your first card is free. The fee to replace a lost card is \$10.00.



You can apply for a SIN online at <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/sin.html>

You can also get a SIN in person at your local Service Canada centre. There is one location in Thunder Bay at 975 Alloy Drive. You will need to bring:

One primary identity document:

- Birth certificate, or
- Certificate of Canadian Citizenship issued by IRCC or CIC, or
- Certificate of Registration of Birth Abroad issued by CIC before 1977

If you are over 18, you must also provide a secondary document. It must contain your legal name and the date of birth. This can include:

- Ontario photo card or driver's license, or
- Passport (Canadian or foreign), or
- Any other Canadian government-issued ID

You can print an application from www.servicecanada.gc.ca and mail it to:

Service Canada Social Insurance Registration Office
P.O. Box 7000 Bathurst, NB, E2A 4T1

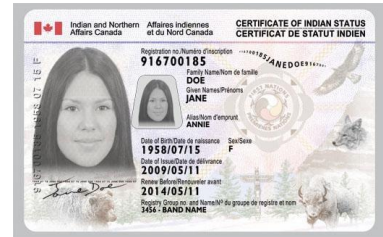
If you do not have a printer, visit your local *Healthy Kids Site*. The staff can print an application for you there.

You will need to include your completed application, payment, and your birth certificate. If you submit your application by mail, they will return your documents by mail once your application is complete. If you have any questions about getting a SIN, call 1-800-206-7218.



Status Card

A Certificate of Indian Status, or a Status Card, indicates that you are registered as a Status Indian under the Indian Act. In order to be eligible for Indian Status, one of your biological parents has to be a registered Indian.



A status card gives you certain benefits and rights. It also allows you to access to many government programs and services. You can learn more about the benefits here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/indigenous-peoples/benefits-and-rights-for-indigenous-peoples.html>

To apply, fill out an application. They can be accessed online at: <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1462806841047/1572461062751#sec2>

To receive an application by mail, call 1-800-567-9604. You can also get an application from the Fort William First Nation Office.

101-100 Anemki Place
Fort William First Nation ON P7J 1A5

If you do not have a printer, visit your local *Healthy Kids Site*. The staff can print an application for you there.

You can submit your completed application and 2 pieces of identification (one must have a photo) to the Fort William First Nation Office.

Or, you can mail your application and photocopies of your identification to:

National SCIS Processing Unit
Indigenous Services Canada
10 rue Wellington
Gatineau, QC, K1A 0H4

Driver's Licence

When you turn 16, you can get your driver's license which allows you to drive in Ontario. Anytime after your 16th birthday, you can go to your local Drive Test office to take your knowledge test.



There is one Drive Test office in Thunder Bay. It is located at the McIntyre Centre, 1186 Memorial Ave, Unit 2.

You will need to bring:

- One or more pieces of ID that includes your legal name, your date of birth, and your signature.
- Payment for the license fee (\$125.00 for the knowledge test, the G2 road test, and your 5 year license)

To prepare for your knowledge test, you can read The Driver's Handbook. This book has all of the rules you need to know to drive in Ontario. It can be bought at Drive Test offices for \$16.00. You can access it for free online: <https://www.ontario.ca/document/official-mto-drivers-handbook>

Once you pass your knowledge test and the vision test, you get a G1 licence. You are considered a beginner driver and need to practice driving and gain experience. With a G1 licence you must follow certain restrictions including always driving with a fully licensed driver. In most cases, you practice with your G1 licence for 12 months.

After 12 months you can take your G2 road test. After passing your G1 road test, you get a G2 licence. You practice with your G2 licence for 12 months. You can now drive without another experienced driver in the car.

After 12 months you can take the G road test. Once you pass, you get a full G licence. You have up to five years to finish the whole process. After five years, if you do not get your full G licence, you will need to start over.





Passport

A Canadian passport allows you to travel outside Canada and can make it easier to get other pieces of ID.

You can print off an application from the Government of Canada website: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/canadian-passports/new-adult-passport/apply-how.html>



If you do not have a printer, visit your local *Healthy Kids Site*. The staff can print an application for you there.

If you are under the age of 16, or applying for a child, you will need to fill out an application for a child's passport. If you are over the age of 16, you can complete an application for an adult.

You will need to get a passport picture taken. This can be done at most photo stores and pharmacies. You will also need a guarantor and two references. These are people who can confirm who you are. They must have known you for at least two years.

You can submit your application by mail:

Government of Canada
Passport Program
Gatineau, QC, K1A 0G3

You can also submit your application in person at the Passport Office:

979 Alloy Drive, 2nd Floor, Thunder Bay, Ontario

To submit in person you will need an appointment which can be made at <https://eservices.canada.ca/en/service/>

Be sure to include your completed application, 2 copies of your photo signed by a guarantor, your birth certificate, another document to prove your identity if you are over the age of 16, and your fee payment.