

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · FEDERAL WAY

How to Get a Driver's License in Federal Way: 2026 Guide

This guide is about Washington State on the Pacific coast, not Washington, D.C. The city's own DOL office, the appointment rule, applying without an SSN and the document lists.

SHORT ANSWER

Licenses come from the state Department of Licensing (DOL), not the city, and Federal Way has its own driver licensing office: 1617 S 324th St, 253-661-5001. It opens Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and closes at weekends. Book an appointment: the office says on its own page that walk-in service is extremely limited. You have 30 days after you move, and the license comes before vehicle registration. No SSN is required. A first license is \$111 for 6 years or \$131 for 8.

Appointment first: this office's own rule

The office's own page says walk-in service is extremely limited or not available at all, and that same-day appointments may open each morning. It handles new licenses and learner permits, ID cards, renewals, name and address changes, driving records, replacement cards and Enhanced Driver License applications. **It does not register vehicles**, so that is a separate office across the street. The DOL page does not say whether tests are given at the Federal Way office; testing mostly happens at contracted driving schools, so ask where to go when you book.

DOL offices in and around Federal Way

OFFICE	ADDRESS	PHONE
Federal Way	1617 S 324th St, Federal Way WA 98003	253-661-5001
Kent	25410 74th Ave S, Kent WA 98032	253-872-2782
Tukwila	200 Andover Park E, Suite 3, Tukwila WA 98188	360-902-3900
Seattle-Queen Anne	450 3rd Ave W, Suite 100, Seattle WA 98119	206-464-6845

Addresses come from DOL's [office locator](#). **Note that the Federal Way office opens an hour later on Thursdays.** Hours differ from office to office and change often, so confirm them when you book. DOL customer line 360-902-3900 (TTY 711). 2026 holiday closures: November 11, November 26 and 27, and December 25.

Before you start

- **A Turkish license is not exchanged.** You take both the knowledge test and the drive test; a Turkish license counts only as supporting B-list evidence.
- **No SSN needed.** Give the number if you have one; if not, sign a declaration saying you have none and the transaction still goes ahead.
- **Turkish is not a test language.** The knowledge test is offered in 12 languages (English, Spanish, traditional and simplified Chinese, Korean, Russian, Vietnamese, Japanese, Arabic, Punjabi, Tagalog, Ukrainian) and the driver guide in 17; Turkish is in neither. The answer is an interpreter: at least 5 business days ahead, email languageaccess@dol.wa.gov with your name, phone, language, office and appointment. The drive test can be given in another language; if no staff member speaks it, the examiner uses picture cards.
- **There is no star-marked REAL ID.** Washington's federally accepted card is the Enhanced Driver License and it goes to U.S. citizens only. A green card or visa holder gets a standard license marked "Federal limits apply".
- **New from November 1, 2026:** first-time Washington license applicants under 25 must complete a free online course.

Which document counts on which list?

LIST	WHAT WORKS FOR SOMEONE ARRIVING FROM TÜRKİYE
Stand-alone	U.S. passport or passport card, green card, employment authorization document (I-766), Re-entry Permit (I-327), Refugee Travel Document (I-571), a U.S. state license or ID that is valid or expired up to 1 year, a naturalization certificate with photo and signature, military ID
A-list	A U.S. visa; a foreign passport carrying an I-94, an I-551 ADIT stamp or a temporary I-551; a U.S. state ID or license expired up to 6 years
B-list	A certified birth certificate (U.S. or foreign), a Turkish driver's license , a certified marriage certificate, school records, an I-20 or DS-2019, a Social Security card, a driving record from another state (30 days)

Step by step: your first license

- 1 **Book an appointment.** Same-day slots may open each morning, but do not count on them.
- 2 **Bring original documents.** Copies, scans and photos on a phone are refused.
- 3 **Give your SSN if you have one, or sign a declaration.**
- 4 **Take the tests.** The knowledge test has 40 multiple-choice questions and you need 32 correct; the score is good for 2 years. The drive test is passed at 80 of 100 and the score is good for 1 year. At 18 and over, no learner permit or driving school is required, though you can buy a 1-year learner permit for \$35 and practice beside someone licensed for more than 5 years. Vision screening happens at the office.
- 5 **Wait for the card.** The temporary license is good for 45 days and the permanent card arrives by mail in 7 to 10 days. If it has not come in 30 days, call 360-902-3900. **The temporary paper license is not accepted as ID.**

Fees (2026)

ITEM	FEE
First license (\$50 application + \$10 a year + \$1 technology)	\$111 (6 years) / \$131 (8 years)
Learner permit (1 year)	\$35 (renewal \$25, replacement \$20)
License renewal	\$61 (6 years) / \$81 (8 years). More than 60 days late adds \$10
Standard ID card instead of a license	\$61 (6 years) / \$81 (8 years)
Replacement card, or a name or address change	\$20

Offices take cash and checks, and cards at most locations, with a vendor fee. Online transactions carry a 3% card fee. You choose whether the license runs 6 or 8 years. The full statewide rules are in our [Washington state guide](#).

NOTE FOR IMMIGRANTS

- A standard Washington license gives no immigration status, and the card does not show your residency. Keep your passport, green card or work permit with you when you board a plane or enter a federal building.
- If your name is spelled differently across documents, sort it out before the appointment. The name on the card has to match your USCIS and SSA records later.
- DOL staff will offer you voter registration during your transaction. If you are not a citizen, decline and answer the citizenship question truthfully.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN FEDERAL WAY

Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients in Federal Way and the surrounding area, in Turkish and English.

Free evaluation: clinchlaw.com/free-evaluation · +1 866-491-7669

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