

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · HENDERSONVILLE

How to Get a Driver License in Hendersonville: 2026 Guide

There is no permanent driver service center in town yet; the mobile unit comes on Thursdays only, and testing is done at the full-service center in the next town.

SHORT ANSWER

The most practical sentence in this guide comes first: **Hendersonville does not yet have a permanent driver service center.** At the address chosen for the new center, the state safety department runs a **mobile unit**, and that unit serves customers **on Thursdays only, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** There is also a **kiosk at city hall**, but a kiosk is a machine, not a clerk. **The full-service center where testing is done is in the county seat, the next town over:** Gallatin. Card types, the limited-term card regime, the document list and the exam languages are the same statewide. **And here is the sentence that touches your case:** in this state **research found no status-independent driving card**, and **the card issued to someone with temporary lawful presence is limited-term.** **That is not a procedural tip, it is a reason to consult a lawyer.**

Four locations, and three of them are not interchangeable

We read the state safety department's own location and advisory lists on **October 12, 2026**. Here is how the locations in Sumner County break down.

LOCATION	ADDRESS	DAYS AND HOURS
Mobile unit, one day a week	260 W Main St., Hendersonville	Thursdays only, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Full service, testing done here	Gallatin Driver Service Center, 855 N Bluejay Way, Gallatin, TN 37066	Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Kiosk	City of Hendersonville Kiosk, 101 Maple Drive North, Hendersonville, TN 37075	Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Kiosk	Sumner County Clerk Kiosk, 355 N Belvedere Dr #111, Gallatin, TN 37066	Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Kiosk	Portland Library Kiosk, 301 Portland Blvd, Portland, TN 37148	Wednesday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The department's own note: closed Monday and Tuesday

The department's own wording is this: the mobile unit is assisting customers at the **future site of the new Hendersonville driver services center**. So an address has been chosen for the permanent center, but the center has not opened. For the opening date, **research did not find** anything; the department gives no date. Read that not as a failing but as **planning information**: if you cannot arrange your business for a Thursday, your trip is to the county seat. **We print no distance or drive time**; work out the trip yourself.

What a kiosk does, and what it does not

Having a kiosk in town sounds reassuring, but **going there without knowing its limits is the easiest mistake in this guide**. A kiosk handles **ready-made transactions such as renewals and duplicates**; it is **not suitable for testing, first issuance or document review**.

- **If your documents must be reviewed:** the mobile unit or the full-service center in the county seat.
 - **If you are taking an exam:** the full-service center only.
 - **If you are renewing or replacing a card you already hold:** the kiosk.
 - **There is also a fee difference:** every license transaction done at a county clerk branch adds **4 dollars** on top of the state fee. A small amount, but know that the door you walk through has a price.
-

Two things to do before you go

- 1 Fill out the application online and send your documents for pre-approval.** The department advises new and returning residents to complete the application through its online service channel before coming in; documents can be submitted for **pre-approval**, which takes **five business days**. **You still have to appear with the original documents.**
 - 2 Make an appointment.** Transactions you can book include first issuance, renewal, duplicate, name and address change, and the knowledge test; **appointments are not offered at every center and the types vary by center**. Arrive **fifteen minutes early**; if you are late the appointment is canceled and you are put in the walk-in line. Centers are **closed on state holidays**. **When the office in your own town opens one day a week, these rules matter even more: a Thursday missed is a week lost.**
-

Four statewide items, and all four touch your file

- **Research found no status-independent driving card.** The department's document lists recognize only three categories: citizenship, lawful permanent residence and **temporary lawful presence**. No fourth card was found. **We do not say there is none; we say research did not find one.**
- **The card issued to someone with temporary lawful presence is limited-term.** By the administrative rule's own definition it is valid **for the length of the authorized stay; if the stay has no definite end, the term is one year**. And **the face of the card reveals the status**: in the department's own sample image, TEMPORARY DRIVER LICENSE appears in capital letters ahead of the name.
- **There is no exam in Turkish.** The computerized exam is offered in only three foreign languages, and Turkish is not among them. **Interpreters are prohibited**, a printed dictionary is allowed, an electronic one is not.
- **A Turkish license is not exchanged.** Türkiye does not appear on the department's reciprocity list; new residents from other countries are required to take **the vision screening, the knowledge test and the road**

skills test, all three. An English translation of a Turkish passport may be requested, and an international driving permit alone does not grant driving privileges.

THE SUBTLE CONSEQUENCE OF THERE BEING NO EXAM IN TURKISH

- In this state, **someone who cannot read and speak English and takes the exam in another language** falls into a different regime: the card **cannot be renewed** and is valid only for a limited period, after which the exam is given **in English only**.
- **Because Turkish is not offered at all**, a Turkish reader takes the exam in English and **does not fall into that regime**.
- **Do not read this as a convenience:** it is not a convenience, it is **the absence of one**. You have to prepare for the exam in English, and no help is allowed beyond a printed dictionary.

A winter road test appointment: the department's two written limits

The department's own driver handbook contains two sentences, and both affect your appointment. First: **road tests are not given in extreme weather**, and the department lists heavy rain and snow, dense fog, hail, high winds and **icy roads** by name. Second: **during winter months road tests are not given in the dark**. Winter is real in this state: the transportation department's statement of **January 25, 2026** describes the icing as **statewide** and asks drivers not to travel. **The practical result:** if you book in winter, **pick an early slot** and plan for the possibility of a weather cancellation.

RESTRICTION BY OFFICE: WE STATE THE LIMIT OF THE MEASUREMENT

- In some states, agencies publish data showing which office handles **foreign national transactions**. **In this state such a field was searched for and not found:** the department's location data carries the name, address, hours, phone number and county, but **no service list**.
- **That does not prove there is no restriction by office.** The department's only written distinction is between **full service** and **a branch where no testing is done**, and it asks new residents to go to **any full-service center**.
- **We give you no shortcut:** call before you go and ask about **your transaction by name**. Note the answer and write down who you spoke with.

Proof of address and the first-week order

In a license file, the item that trips people up is not a document but **proof of address**. And in this city that item comes from somewhere unusual: **the city does not operate any of the utilities that reach your home**. Your water comes from one of two districts, your electricity from a cooperative or from a neighboring city's municipal utility, and your natural gas from a private company. **A bill in your own name serves as proof of residence at many doors**, so open the accounts early. **And write the address the same way everywhere:** the address on your license, your vehicle registration, your lease and your school enrollment should match.

- 1 Talk to your attorney first.** In this state the agency asks for proof of lawful presence and the type of card depends on your status; discuss which document you will apply with before you assemble your file.
- 2 Pick the right door:** testing is done only at the full-service center and that center is in the next town; the mobile unit opens Thursdays only; the kiosk handles ready-made transactions only.
- 3 Call and name your transaction.** The department's location data has no service list field, so we cannot read from the data whether there is a restriction by office.
- 4 Fill out the application online and send documents for pre-approval;** pre-approval takes five business days.
- 5 Prepare your proof of address:** a bill opened in your name or a lease agreement.
- 6 Prepare for the exam in English,** and if you are booking in winter, pick an early slot.
- 7 Tie the vehicle side to this:** a valid state driver license or state photo identification card, **even a limited-term one,** is accepted on its own for vehicle registration.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN HENDERSONVILLE

Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients in Hendersonville and the surrounding area, in Turkish and English. Free evaluation: clinchlaw.com/free-evaluation · +1 866-491-7669
Office: 321 N Central Expy, Ste 206, McKinney, TX 75070

Attorney responsible for this guide: Asim Clinch, Esq., Clinch Law Firm P.C. Attorney Asim Clinch is a member of the Missouri Bar (No. 76084) and practices U.S. federal immigration law.

Attorney advertising. This guide is general information only. It is not legal advice and is not a substitute for the advice of an attorney. Information compiled from official sources as of October 12, 2026; fees and procedures change, so check the official site before you act. Reading this guide does not create an attorney-client relationship. The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely upon advertisements. Latest version: clinchlaw.com/city-guides/hendersonville-immigration-attorney