

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · SCHAUMBURG

How to Get a Driver's License in Schaumburg: the Golf Road Facility, No-SSN Applications and Turkish License Rules, 2026 Guide

The village's own driver services facility, which transactions need an appointment, the four document groups, the tests, the fees and the 90-day window.

SHORT ANSWER

The Illinois Secretary of State (SOS) issues the license, and Schaumburg has its own facility: 1227 E. Golf Rd., in the Woodfield area. It is open weekdays 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 7:30 to noon, closed Sunday. Driver services are by appointment; vehicle work such as a plate sticker renewal is walk-in. A four-year license costs \$30 for ages 21 to 68. The Temporary Visitor Driver's License (TVDL) has been abolished: an applicant with no SSN now gets a standard license marked "Federal Limits Apply."

What to know before you start

- **Book an appointment for driver services.** On the SOS facility list, the Schaumburg entry carries the note "Appointment Required for Driver Services": a first license, a renewal, an ID card, REAL ID and the in-car road test all need one. Book at apps.ilsos.gov/dlexamcheck or on 800-252-8980; the Chicago and Cook County line on the facility page is 312-793-1010.
- **Vehicle work does not need an appointment, with one caveat.** The facility page says plate sticker renewals and disability placards are walk-in. But the same page also shows "appointment required" next to the title and new registration lines, so it is not clear on those two. If you are going for a title transfer or a new registration, book anyway.
- **The TVDL is over, but the facility page still shows it.** Public Act 103-0210 barred the issue of a Temporary Visitor Driver's License after July 1, 2024. The Schaumburg facility page still lists TVDL lines in its service menu; that line belongs to a repealed rule, so do not plan around it.
- **Türkiye is not on the consular ID list.** The consular IDs the SOS accepts are only those of Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala and Mexico. A Turkish applicant's document is a passport.
- **A Turkish license is not exchanged and the IDP is not recognized.** Türkiye is not on the SOS no-test exchange list. New residents may drive on a valid Turkish license for 90 days, and an International Driving Permit does not extend that.
- **The written test is in English.** The rule (92 Ill. Adm. Code 1030.80) allows other languages, but we found no Turkish test and no Turkish Rules of the Road book. A facility manager may provide an interpreter if one is readily available; otherwise you bring your own.

- **A car is a practical necessity.** No CTA train comes into the village. You have Metra's MD-W line, Pace buses, the village's own DART dial-a-ride and a free trolley around Woodfield; but for daily errands outside Woodfield a car genuinely helps.

Step by step

- 1 Book the appointment.** Do not wait for the 90 days to run out; check the calendar in your first week in town.
- 2 Bring one document from each of four groups.** Signature (A), date of birth and legal status (B), SSN (C) and Illinois residency (D). REAL ID needs two documents from group D, and originals are required.
- 3 Surrender your old license.** The SOS requires you to hand in every license and ID issued by another state or another country.
- 4 Take the tests.** Vision screening, the written test for a Class D license and a road test if required. The Schaumburg facility does the written test, the non-commercial road test and the motorcycle test; the road and motorcycle tests are by appointment only. Tests are generally available until 30 minutes before closing, so do not book the last slot of the day. Bring the insurance card for the car you drive.
- 5 Payment.** The facility takes cash, checks and credit or debit cards (American Express, Discover, MasterCard, Visa).
- 6 Wait for the card.** You leave with a paper license valid 90 days; the real card arrives by mail. A license is valid 4 years, a state ID 5 years. Report any address change to the SOS within 10 days.

The four document groups

GROUP	WHAT IT PROVES	COMMON DOCUMENTS FOR FOREIGN NATIONALS
A	Signature	Passport, credit card, signed debit card
B	Date of birth and legal status	Green card (I-551), employment authorization card (I-766), I-797A, Form I-94 with a valid passport, U.S. visa. A foreign passport alone is not enough; a second group B document is required with it.
C	Social Security number	SSN card, W-2, SSA-1099, pay stub showing the full SSN
D	Illinois residency	A lease, a ComEd or Nicor bill, the village water bill , a bank statement or a letter from a government agency dated within the last 90 days. Two originals for REAL ID. Full list in the SOS acceptable documents brochure dated June 17, 2025 .

PROOF OF ADDRESS IS EASY TO COME BY HERE

In Schaumburg a tenant opens the water account in their own name, which hands you one more official document with your name on it. The village puts it plainly: if you are a new tenant, you must establish water service by completing the New Water Service Form. The practical result: your lease plus the first water bill in your name covers you for the license application and for school registration.

The Schaumburg facility and nearby alternatives

OFFICE	ADDRESS · HOURS · NOTE
Schaumburg	1227 E. Golf Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60173 · weekdays 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 7:30 to noon, closed Sunday · driver services by appointment · first license, renewal, duplicate, instruction permit, written test, road and motorcycle tests, state ID, commercial license; on the vehicle side registration renewal, sticker replacement, title and new registration, title transfer, temporary plate, organ donor registration and voter registration
Elk Grove Village	650 Roppolo Dr., Elk Grove Village, IL · confirm hours · nearby suburban alternative, driver services again by appointment
Lake Zurich (DMV+)	951 S. Rand Rd., Lake Zurich, IL · confirm hours · alternative to the northwest; the same address also does apostilles
Melrose Park (DMV+)	1903 N. Mannheim Rd., Melrose Park, IL · confirm hours · alternative to the southeast; the same address also does apostilles
Other nearby offices	Des Plaines (1533 Lee St.) and Lombard (837 Westmore-Meyer Rd., Unit A2) · driver services by appointment at both · we could not verify the hours of the alternative offices, so check the facility finder when you book · we also could not find the Schaumburg facility's holiday closures on the official page

If you cannot get an SSN

- **What changed:** instead of the TVDL, applicants who cannot get an SSN now apply for the standard four-year license. The card is marked "Federal Limits Apply" and is not a REAL ID.
- **If you have a USCIS or DHS document:** you can present the document showing you are permitted to be in the United States in place of an SSN.
- **If you have no such document:** the SOS requires proof of **twelve months of Illinois residency** for a first license.
- **Fee:** \$30. The same documents also get you a \$20 state ID card with no test.
- **It is not voting eligibility:** the card is identification and a driving permit. The Golf Road facility also takes voter registrations; if you are not a U.S. citizen, do not fill in that section.

Fees (2026)

TRANSACTION	FEE
License (ages 21 to 68, 4 years)	\$30
License (ages 18 to 20 and 69 to 80)	\$5
Class D instruction permit (first / renewal)	\$20 / \$10
State ID card (ages 18 to 64, 5 years)	\$20

TRANSACTION	FEE
Duplicate license	\$5

Do I need a REAL ID?

Domestic flights and some federal buildings require a REAL ID or another accepted document such as a passport; a REAL ID card has a gold star in the top right corner. The Schaumburg facility does REAL ID, so you do not have to go into the city for it. According to the [SOS REAL ID page](#), TSA accepts only the printed card, not the temporary paper document you leave the counter with.

IF YOU ARE NOT A CITIZEN

- Your license is issued to match the period you are permitted to stay. Bring the originals of your passport, visa, I-94 record and any I-797 receipts to the appointment; a wrong I-94 can sink the application. Check your record at i94.cbp.dhs.gov beforehand.
- An application that meets REAL ID requirements also counts as a voter registration application. If you do not want to be registered, check the decline box on the form. Registering or voting without citizenship is a federal crime.
- If you are subject to the address-reporting requirement, you must also report your new address to USCIS within 10 days of moving (Form AR-11); holders of A and G visas and Visa Waiver visitors are exempt. Telling the SOS does not satisfy that.

Common mistakes

- Trusting the TVDL line on the facility page. The program ended on July 1, 2024.
- Going for driver services without an appointment, or assuming title work can be done walk-in.
- Booking a test in the last slot of the day. Tests run only until 30 minutes before closing.
- Assuming a Turkish license converts without a test, or that an IDP is enough.
- Bringing photocopies. Originals are required.
- Waiting for the 90 days to expire. Without an SSN the twelve-month residency rule also applies.

TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN SCHAUMBURG

Have a question about your immigration status?



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