



ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION FOR DHS BACKGROUND STUDIES

Entities that initiate background studies are required by law to verify the background study subject's identity and document completion in NETStudy 2.0. This is a summary of acceptable forms of identification to be used for DHS background studies.

Primary Identification Document

When a background study subject has a valid* picture identification listed below use this document for identity verification:

- State Issued Driver's License – the issuing authority must be a U.S. state or territory;
- State-Issued Identification Card – the issuing authority must be a U.S. state or territory;
- U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card.

***Valid documentation:** Only unexpired, original documentation is acceptable, except when a background study subject presents an acceptable receipt for a primary or secondary identification document. There are three types of acceptable receipts:

1. A receipt showing that the subject has applied to replace the primary or secondary identification document;
2. The arrival portion of Form I-94/I-94A with a temporary I-551 stamp and photograph of the individual;
3. The departure portion of Form I-94/I-94A with a refugee admission stamp.

Secondary Identification Document

If a background study subject does not have a valid picture identification listed above, the following valid* documentation of a secondary identification may be used for identity verification:

- School ID card that includes a photograph.
- Voter's registration card.
- U.S. military card or draft record.
- Military dependent's ID card.
- U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariners Document (MMD) Card.
- Native American tribal document.
- Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-551).
- Foreign passport that contains a temporary I-551 stamp or temporary I-551 printed notation on a machine-readable immigrant visa (MRIV).
- Foreign passport with special documents issued by the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).
- Employment Authorization Document (Card) that contains a photograph (Form I-766).



- Driver's license issued by a Canadian government authority or a consular identification card issued by the Government of Mexico or other proof of identification issued by another government that is substantially similar and that DHS determines is acceptable proof.
- Passport from the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) or the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) with Form I-94 or Form I-94A showing nonimmigrant admission under the Compact of Free Association Between the United States and the FSM or RMI.
- ID card issued by federal, state, or local government agencies or entities, provided it contains a photograph or information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color, and address.
- Foreign passport with Form I-94 or Form I-94A, Arrival/Departure Report bearing the same name as the passport and containing an endorsement of the alien's nonimmigrant status that authorizes such alien to work for a specific employer incident to this status. This document may only be used if the period of endorsement has not yet expired.

Exceptions – People Under Age 18

People under 18 who are unable to present a picture identification document listed in the Primary Identification Document section may present the following acceptable secondary identification documents:

- School record or report card;
- Clinic, doctor, or hospital record;
- Day-care or nursery school record.

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1. A receipt showing that the subject has applied to replace the primary or secondary identification document;
2. The arrival portion of Form I-94/I-94A with a temporary I-551 stamp and photograph of the individual;
3. The departure portion of Form I-94/I-94A with a refugee admission stamp.

Legal References

- Information required to be provided by background study subjects; *See* Minnesota Statutes, section 245C.05, subd. 1.
- Information required to be verified by the entity initiating the background study; *See* Minnesota – the issuing authority must be a U.S. state or territory.
- Statutes, section 245C.05, subd. 2 (a).