

Security and Privacy Protection

Enhanced Driver License and Identification Card (EDL or EID) Facts

- The EDL or EID is **voluntary**.
- The cost is \$15 more than a driver license or ID.
- You can call (360) 902-3900 and make an appointment to apply for your EDL or EID at our Port Angeles or Downtown Seattle offices. All other offices that issue the EDL or EID are walk-in on a first-come, first-serve basis. Go online to www.dol.wa.gov for the office locations.
- You must apply in-person for the EDL or EID, provide your social security number, and provide documentation to prove your U.S. citizenship, identity, Washington State residency, be interviewed, and have your photo taken.
- The EDL or EID card includes a passive vicinity radio frequency identification tag (RFID) and a Machine Readable Zone, just like a passport, that can be scanned at the border. This RFID is required by the federal government to facilitate rapid identification checks at the border.
- **The RFID tag does not contain any personal identifying information, just a unique reference number.**
- The unique reference number will be matched to Department of Licensing (DOL) records to verify the information contained on the front of the EDL or EID card.
- The network address of the query will be recognized as a legitimate requestor and the Washington State Department of Information Services (DIS) will reject all other requests.
- EDL or EID applicants will be informed of the RFID and its purpose, content, and security.

Security Facts

RCW 19.300.20 makes it a class C felony for a person to intentionally scan another person's identification device remotely, without that person's prior knowledge and consent, for the purpose of fraud, identity theft, or for any other illegal purpose.

- The EDL or EID's RFID number is transmitted to the Customs and Border Protection network across a dedicated and secure circuit.
- DOL will provide a security sleeve to protect the RFID tag from being activated when you are not at a border crossing station.
- Enhancements included in the EDL or EID design are industry best practices for security:
- Secure and isolated-dedicated (optic fiber) network connectivity.
- Encryption of personal identifying information between Washington State and the Border Officer during transmission.
- Closed and secure network design, including firewalls.
- Limited and controlled access to the network, network equipment, and data centers.
- Tampering with, or deactivating the RFID tag will invalidate the EDL or EID for purposes of border crossing.



*We are committed to providing equal access to our services.
If you need accommodation, please call (360) 902-3900 or TTY (360) 664-0116.*