



Frequently Asked Questions

Proof of Identity Requirements for the Application of a WA Driver's Licence

Why are Passports (Australian and Overseas) not a Category A document?

Each category of documents has a different purpose. Category A is the establishment of a person's identity in Australia. Category B establishes a link between the identity and the person. A Category B document cannot be obtained without first obtaining a Category A document. All applicants will be required to prove the establishment of their identity in Australia through the provision of a Category A document.

Why are overseas birth certificates not included as a Category A document?

A person's identity must be established in Australia, this is why evidence of holding an Australian Visa is accepted. An Australian Visa is an acknowledgement of a person's identity being established in Australia. Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS) cannot be certain of the validity or authenticity of a document that was issued overseas.

Why are commemorative certificates issued in Australia not accepted?

Commemorative certificates (Marriage & Birth) do not contain the required security features to be deemed an appropriate Category A document.

Why are extracts of birth no longer accepted?

Extracts of birth do not have the same security features as a Birth Certificate. Extracts of Birth have not been issued since 2005.

Does a Visa issued by the Australian Government qualify as a Category A document?

Yes, a Visa is recognition by the Australian Government of a person's identity. Australian authorities do not require a visa label in a person's passport to travel to, enter or remain in Australia.

When you attend a DVS centre or agency the staff will verify your visa details with the Department of Home Affairs (DOHA) using the Visa Entitlement Verification Online (VEVO) system. If your visa details cannot be verified via VEVO you may be required to contact DOHA.

Can I use my ImmiCard that was issued by the Department of Immigration & Citizenship (now known as Department of Home Affairs), as a category A document?

Yes, Evidence of Immigration Status (EIS) and Permanent Resident Evidence (PRE) ImmiCard's are acceptable as a Category A document.

I was born overseas and have been living in Australia for some time, what sort of documents do I need to provide?

All applicants for a WA driver's licence must provide a Category A document. If you are not an Australian citizen and you no longer have a valid visa label in your passport we can check your visa details online using the Department of Home Affairs (DOHA) Visa Entitlement Verification Online (VEVO). If you have obtained a new passport since your visa was granted please ensure you advise DOHA so they can link your visa to your new passport. For some longer term residents we may not be able to check your visa on VEVO, in which case you will need to contact DOHA on 131 881.

Are marriage certificates classified as a Category A document?

Marriage certificates (regardless of where it was issued) are not a Category A document. A marriage certificate is proof of a marriage or a name change, not the proof of the establishment of a person's identity.

I don't have a Medicare card of my own (my name is on my parent's card) can I still use it as a C Category C document?

Yes.

Is a letter from a government or private school a sufficient category D document?

Yes, as long as the letter is addressed to your current residential address.

Can I use a school report as a category C document?

Yes, as long as the school report was issued by a secondary school in WA and is less than 6 months old.

Can a 'Keys for Life' certificate be used as a category C document?

Yes.

Why are documents which were previously accepted for the grant of a WA driver's licence now considered as a Category B or C and not a Category A document?

WA's proof of identity requirements have been based on the National Identity Security Strategy (NISS) Gold Enrolment. Each category of document has a different purpose, Category A is the establishment of a person's identity, Category B is a link between the identity and the person, Category C proves that the identity is operating in the community and Category D provides evidence of the applicant's residential address.

What about other licensing transactions which require proof of identity, what ID will be required?

The requirement to provide Category A, B, C and D documents only applies to applications for the initial grant of a WA driver's licence. All other transactions requiring POI remain unchanged. For information on all other POI requirements please view the fact sheet 'Proof of identity for other Driver & Vehicle Services transactions' on www.transport.wa.gov.au/dvs