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## **Temporary Driver Licensing Regional Office in Bardstown to Open in July**

*Provides expanded regional access for Kentuckians, permanent Bardstown office to come*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (July 8, 2024)** – Team Kentucky today announced plans to expand access to services for residents with the opening of a new Driver Licensing Regional Office in Bardstown. Kentuckians may visit the temporary office space to apply for or renew a Kentucky driver’s license or identification card.

The Bardstown location is the 33<sup>rd</sup> regional office operated by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet since issuance services transitioned to the state from Circuit Court Clerk Offices in June 2022. The office, located at 860 W. Stephen Foster Ave., may be accessed through the rear entrance by the parking lot. The office has a modest waiting area inside and three issuing stations, with staff ready to provide the public with REAL ID, standard driver’s license, learner permits and state ID cards. Kentucky State Police driver and road testing is not performed at this location at this time.

“We’ve always committed to looking for ways to improve access and the customer experience at our regional offices,” said Transportation Secretary Jim Gray. “With the upcoming REAL ID enforcement date next May, this temporary location allows us to serve Kentuckians while we continue plans to move to a larger, permanent location in Bardstown.”

Operating hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. CT. Appointments can be scheduled online at [drive.ky.gov](http://drive.ky.gov), but the office also serves walk-in customers on a first-come, first-served basis while slots are available. A permanent location for this office is expected in 2025.

Kentuckians can “skip a trip” to an office by renewing their current credential online or by mail. To date, approximately 588,000 Kentuckians have renewed remotely.

A form of REAL ID will be required to board U.S. commercial flights, access military bases, or enter federal buildings requiring identification starting May 7, 2025.

First-time issuance of a REAL ID license version must be done in person at a regional office. A standard-issue license can still be used after the enforcement date for driving and as proof of identity, age, and residence for purposes of voting and age-restricted purchases, such as buying alcohol. It will also still be good for accessing federal facilities such as Social Security offices and Veterans Administration hospitals.

A four-year REAL ID-compliant driver's license is \$24 and \$48 for an eight-year credential. A standard, non-compliant four-year license is \$21.50, while an eight-year license costs \$43. Click here for a listing of regional offices or to make an appointment.

Take the IDocument Guide Quiz or view a list of valid documents to arrive prepared and avoid a repeat trip when applying for a REAL ID license version. For more information, visit [www.realidky.com](http://www.realidky.com)

Driver testing is conducted by Kentucky State Police and must be completed before a permit or license can be requested. Testing appointments should be made online at <https://www.kentuckystatepolice.ky.gov/driver-testing>.

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