

Commonwealth of Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

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Pilot rollout of Kentucky's new driver's licenses in Hart County to be rescheduled

Additional time for system improvements will create more seamless process for citizens

FRANKFORT, Ky. (July 5, 2019) – The pilot rollout of Kentucky's new, more secure driver's licenses in Hart County will be rescheduled to provide additional time for system improvements before the pilot phase continues. Franklin County and Woodford County recently launched the pilot program, and are currently offering the new credentials.

"Fine-tuning a new system is common during a pilot phase, and with each county that deploys, we continue to build a better program," said Department of Vehicle Regulation Commissioner Matt Henderson. "We've monitored performance in Franklin and Woodford counties, and our card vendor requires additional time to make back-end updates before moving to Hart County. By making these improvements now, the Circuit Court Clerk and citizens will benefit from a quicker, more seamless experience."

The rollout date for Hart County and a small number of additional pilot counties will be announced soon. Driver's licensing offices in Hart County will now be open Tuesday, July 9. A phased, county-by-county rollout extending to the remaining counties will begin this summer after the pilot period ends. Dates will be updated on the drive.ky.gov/confidentky website as the rollout approaches in each county.

The altered schedule will not impact benefits Kentuckians can access using their current driver's license, thanks to a federal extension from the Department of Homeland Security that allows airport security checkpoints and military bases to accept existing card versions for U.S. air travel and entry.

Current Kentucky licenses, permits and IDs will remain valid until their expiration date. Cardholders should wait to request one of the new card versions until they are within their six-month renewal window. Cardholders whose renewal window does not allow them to renew before the REAL ID enforcement deadline of Oct. 1, 2020, can request a new Voluntary Travel ID credential once it is available in their county of residence.

Applicants requesting the new Voluntary Travel ID, or those applying for a license, permit or personal ID for the first time, must present documentation verifying identity, social security number, and residency. Kentuckians are encouraged to prepare by using the IDocument Guide at drive.ky.gov/confidentky to create a personalized list of documents to bring when applying.