

Andy Beshear Governor Jim Gray Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contacts: Naitore Djigbenou

502.782.4829

Naitore.Djigbenou@ky.gov

Allen Blair 606.748.3716 Allen.Blair@ky.gov

New Driver Licensing Regional Office Open in Leitchfield

New location increases access to licensing and identification services in Western Kentucky

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Dec. 5, 2024) – Team Kentucky has opened a new Driver Licensing Regional Office in Leitchfield, enhancing accessibility to licensing and identification services for Kentuckians in the Western region of the commonwealth.

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) opened its 34th regional license office at 1903 W. Elizabethtown Road and will operate there until a permanent site is established. It provides ample parking with access to overflow space, a large lobby and seating area, and three staffed service stations to streamline processing.

"Obtaining identification and driver's licenses provides vital access to jobs, housing, bank accounts, voting and more," said KYTC Secretary Jim Gray. "To make the credentialing process for Kentuckians easier and more efficient, we continue to expand the regional office network."

The new Leitchfield office's business hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Central Time. Appointments are encouraged and can be made for any regional office online at drive.ky.gov. Walk-in customers are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Presently, there is no driver testing available at this location. Testing is conducted by Kentucky State Police (KSP). Applicants requiring written or skills testing must schedule an appointment online at assigned locations by visiting kentuckystatepolice.org/driver-testing/.

"Over the last two years, we have established six new offices and there's more on the way," said Matt Cole, Department of Vehicle Regulations commissioner. "We intend to continue that growth to improve access and services for folks across the commonwealth."

With the Driver Licensing Regional Office network, Kentuckians now have convenient options, such as online scheduling for office appointments and online or mail-in license renewal, that were not available under Kentucky's previous system based at local circuit court clerk offices. Kentuckians can choose between a standard-issue or REAL ID-compliant credential and a card valid for four or eight years.

First-time REAL ID applicants must visit a KYTC regional office <u>in person</u>, with proof of identity, residence and Social Security. For a personalized list of required documents to bring when applying, visit <u>realidky.com</u>. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has set May 7, 2025, as the date by which a REAL ID or other form of verified identification will be required for boarding a commercial airliner, entering a U.S. military base or entering a federal building where ID is currently required.

Vision Screening, <u>announced in September</u>, will begin Jan. 1, 2025, for all driver license renewals. For more information on the new vision screening requirement and how to prepare for your driver's license renewal, visit <u>drive.ky.gov/visionscreening</u>. Kentucky CDL carriers with a valid, unexpired license are exempt from conducting a vision screening when renewing their license as their annual required medical certification process includes vision screening.

###



