



Commonwealth of Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statement about REAL ID progress

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Sept. 18, 2019) – The Transportation Cabinet, in partnership with Circuit Court Clerks, recently began a phased pilot program to rollout REAL ID compliant credentials in specific counties, prior to making the credential available in all 120 counties. The pilot approach was necessary to understand any issues with the new credentialing system and has allowed KYTC to significantly improve system performance and to monitor operations. The pilot program identified staffing and workload increases in Circuit Court Clerk offices that are not sustainable both in the short and long term.

In partnership with the Circuit Court Clerks and the Administrative Office of the Courts, the proposed approach is for Circuit Court Clerks to continue to issue standard, non-REAL ID driver's licenses while the Transportation Cabinet works with the legislature to consider implementing a network of regional offices to issue the optional REAL ID compliant cards. The Cabinet believes this is the fastest and most efficient path forward to make REAL ID compliant cards available statewide before the federal deadline of October 2020.

The Cabinet recently opened an additional issuance location at KYTC headquarters to support the Franklin County pilot.

We will provide an update as plans are finalized. We remain committed to a successful rollout.

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