



Guide to obtaining ESSENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Updated: 04/05/22

Previously had a PA State ID?

If your ID has expired, you are eligible for a FREE renewal!

a) Visit a PennDot office, inform them that you are experiencing homelessness, and apply for a new ID.

If you need a replacement (prior to the expiration date), PennDot will charge you \$31.50.

a) It can be ordered online or in person; some local organizations may be able to help with the cost.

b) If you order online, you will need your ID# - Obtain it by contacting PennDot's customer service number: **717-412-5300**.

Never had a PA State ID?

Start with your Birth Certificate.

It's an essential first piece, and each state has its own protocol.

Ask your case worker to help or contact HAP at 215-523-9595 to begin the process.

**PA Birth Certificates for Individuals experiencing homelessness are FREE.*

Then go after your Social Security Card.

a) **While you wait for your Birth Certificate**, get a certified copy of your medical records. You will need them.

b) **Alternatively, if you already have your government-issued ID**, that plus your Birth Certificate works!

****As of 04/07/2022, the Social Security Offices are OPEN for walk-in services!****

Once you have your Birth Certificate and Certified Medical Record or ID, visit your local SSA field office to complete SSA Form 5 and request a replacement. The replacement card is always free.

You're nearly through!

Once you have your Birth Certificate and Social Security Card, the last item you'll need is official proof of your address. *With that piece, you have all of the documents required.*

Initial Photo IDs for anyone experiencing homelessness are FREE.

1) Visit PennDOT with your documents.

2) Complete the application (DL54B).

3) Inform the staff member who assists you that you are experiencing homelessness.

Questions? Contact Evan at edubchansky@haplegal.org