

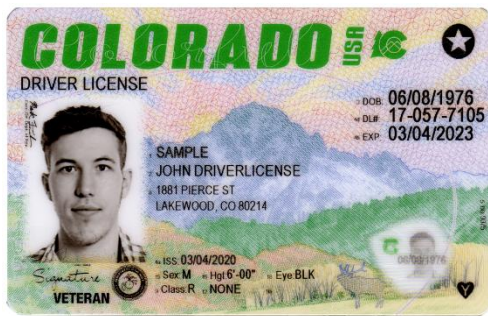
SUPPORT SB25-008

Adjust Necessary Document Program

Sponsors: Sen. Hinrichsen, Sen. Kipp, Rep. Froelich

Colorado's Necessary Documents Program – made permanent by SB21-018 – pays for vouchers for free identification documents (e.g., driver's license, state ID card, birth certificates.) for residents who are victims of domestic violence, impacted by a natural disaster, low-income, disabled, experiencing homelessness, or elderly and are seeking documentation of their identity.

The cost of these ID documents can be prohibitive for some people, and without them, residents cannot open bank accounts, drive legally, comply with law enforcement requests for documentation, access health care, housing, employment, or public benefits.



Note: The Colorado Necessary Documents program does NOT refer to the State ID Program through the Department of Corrections.

This program is important for:

- People who lose documents in floods, fires, and other natural disasters
- Domestic violence victims who leave documents behind when fleeing their homes
- People experiencing homelessness, who have documents stolen or displaced
- People new to Colorado, who only have out-of-state ID documents
- People needing new documents due to a marriage or divorce

The Problem:

The Necessary Documents Program poses administrative challenges due to the complicated program structure, frequently resulting in delayed voucher transfers. Additionally, vouchers are time-limited, remaining valid for only 30 days after distribution to a client, making the utilization rate extremely low, at roughly 30%.

Notably, program funding is stagnant at \$300,000 per year. The current funding falls short of meeting the true need by as much as 90%. Social service providers routinely run out of vouchers to distribute to clients in need, and in some cases spend thousands covering the costs out of pocket.

The Solution:

Eliminate the need for a physical voucher, allowing eligible individuals to access ID documents directly at the point of service.

First step toward making the program more efficient and accessible

July 1, 2027 implementation of voucherless structure aligns with key dates

NO CHANGE to eligibility or identity verification requirements

Endorsing Organizations



Alianza NORCO
All Families Deserve a Chance Coalition
Boulder County DDHS
Catholic Charities
Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger
Colorado Cross Disability Coalition
Colorado Coalition for the Homeless
Colorado Center for Aging
Colorado Center on Law and Policy
Colorado Common Cause
Colorado Fiscal Institute
Colorado Freedom Fund
Colorado Lawyers Committee
Colorado Poverty Law Project
Congressional Research Institute
for Social Work and Policy

Crossroads Safehouse
Disabled Resource Services
Enterprise Community Partners
Family Housing Network of Fort Collins, Inc.
Grand Valley Peace and Justice
HAAT Force South Metro, Inc.
Harm Reduction Action Center
Homeward Alliance
Hunger Free Colorado
Impact Charitable
Jeffco Navigation Collaborative
Mutual Aid Monday
Senior Support Services
The Matthews House
Violence Free Colorado
We Don't Waste

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