

# Real ID Facts

10/7/2015

- **Contrary to recent news reports, air travel will NOT be impacted January 1, 2016**
  - A Louisiana driver's license or identification card will still be accepted as identification to board an aircraft until such time the Federal Government announces an enforcement date
  - Colonel Edmonson has requested an extension from the Department of Homeland Security based on the fact that a Louisiana driver's license and identification card already comply with the majority of Real ID requirements

- **Real ID Phased Enforcement Description and Schedule**

Phase	Location	Enforcement Date
Phase 1	Restricted areas (i.e., areas accessible by agency personnel, contractors, and their guests) for DHS headquarters in Washington	April 21, 2014
Phase 2	Restricted areas for all Federal facilities & nuclear power plants	July 21, 2014
Phase 3	Semi-restricted areas (i.e., areas available to the general public but subject to ID-based access control) for most Federal facilities – Access to Federal facilities will continue to be allowed for purposes of applying for or receiving Federal benefits	January 19, 2015
3a	Facility Security Levels 1 and 2	January 19, 2015
3b	Facility Security Levels 3, 4, and 5, and military facilities	October 10, 2015
Phase 4	Boarding federally regulated commercial aircraft A driver's license or identification card from a noncompliant state may only be used in conjunction with a second form of ID for boarding federally regulated commercial aircraft	No sooner than 2016

- **Limitations**
- Access for activities directly relating to safety and health or life preserving services, to law enforcement, and to constitutionally protected activities, including legal and investigative proceedings will not be affected. Existing agency policies will still apply.
- The Act does not require individuals to present identification where it is not currently required to access a Federal facility (such as to enter the public areas of the Smithsonian) nor does it prohibit an agency from accepting other forms of identity documents other than documents from non-compliant states (such as a U.S. passport or passport card).
- The Act's prohibitions do not affect other uses of driver's licenses or identification cards – including licenses and cards from noncompliant states – unrelated to official purposes as defined in the Act. For example, the Act does not apply to voting, registering to vote, or for applying for or receiving Federal benefits.
- For more information, please contact the DHS Office of State-Issued Identification Support at [osiis@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:osiis@hq.dhs.gov).