4 GET YOUR TEMPORARY ID AND PERMANENT ID

- → Temporary IDs are now issued the same-day you bring you documents to the Secretary of State's Office.
- → Permanent IDs are mailed out within 15 days to the address of either the provider on your homeless certification letter or to the address you provide on separate residency documents. If it is mailed to a service provider, you must be sure to stay in touch with them and pick up the ID, or they are required to by law to mail it back after 60 days.

RESOURCES

Illinois Secretary of State
www.cyberdriveillinois.com

Cook County Free Birth Certificate Form
www.chicagohomeless.org/cook-birth-certificate/

Other Illinois Counties Free Birth Certificate Form
www.chicagohomeless.org/il-birth-certificate/

State-by-State Identification Guide
www.chicagohomeless.org/bc-outside-illinois/

Social Security Card Application
www.ssa.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf

Homeless Verification Letter
www.chicagohomeless.org/verification-letter/

Call the
LAW PROJECT
OF THE
CHICAGO COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS
at **1-800-940-1119**
for additional guidance in obtaining identification documents.

GETTING AN ILLINOIS ID AND OTHER IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS:

A GUIDE FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

LAW PROJECT
OF THE
CHICAGO COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

1-800-940-1119
www.chicagohomeless.org

Getting an ID without an ID may seem difficult because you need an ID to get access to some of the documents required to get an ID. For most people, there are 4 essential steps to getting an ID: getting a birth certificate, social security card, homeless verification or proof of residency, and getting the temporary and permanent ID. It makes sense to get your birth certificate first, because most people will need that to get their Social Security Card.

If you were born outside the US and are not eligible for a Social Security Number, you may qualify for a Temporary Visitor's Driver's License, but you will not be eligible for an Illinois State ID. Visit the Secretary of State's website to learn more at **www.cyberdriveillinois.com**

1 GET YOUR BIRTH CERTIFICATE

If you were born outside the US but have a Social Security Number, you do not need your birth certificate to get a Social Security card; you can use your green card or other proof of legal immigration status to get your SS card.

GETTING A BIRTH CERTIFICATE IS NOW FREE FOR PEOPLE BORN IN ILLINOIS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS!

Fill out your form with a homeless service provider, school homeless liaison, or attorney. If you were born in Illinois, you can get a free birth certificate.

→ If you were born in Cook County, use the free birth certificate form found at www.chicagohomeless.org/cook-birth-certificate/. After you complete it with the help of a service provider, homeless liaison or attorney, bring it to your local Cook County Vital Records office. In Chicago, Vital Records is located at 50 W. Washington. Bring with you any other form of ID that you have (school or work), or anything else you have with your name on it, including a piece of mail.

→ If you were born in another county in Illinois, use the form found at www.chicagohomeless.org/il-birth-certificate/. After you complete it with a help of a service provider, homeless liaison or attorney, they will have to get your birth certificate for you either in-person or by mail using their ID and sending it to (enter address for Illinois Department of Public Health).

→ If you were born outside of Illinois, you can contact the vital records office of either the county or state where you were born. For a state-by-state guide you can visit: www.chicagohomeless.org/bc-outside-illinois/. If you do not have an ID, you may need the help of a service provider or attorney. There may be a fee charged for birth certificates from other states.

2 GET YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY CARD

Apply in person at any Social Security Office. You have to apply for a Social Security Card in-person in Illinois. You will have to go to your local office and complete the application for a SS card. If you want to complete it in advance it can be found here (https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf). A list of local offices can be found at https://www.ssa.gov/chicago/illinois.html

→ Bring your Birth Certificate and another form of ID. In order to get your Social Security Card, you will need your birth certificate and one other form of ID. Other forms of ID you can use are: School ID, Work ID, Military ID, or a Medical Insurance card. Medical records or a school transcript may also be accepted.

- If you do not have a second form of ID, you should apply for Medicaid. Once you enroll in an insurance plan through Medicaid, they will send you an insurance card.
- If you have a DD214 or a Social Security Award Letter as a Primary Beneficiary, you can use that instead of a Social Security Card to get an ID.

3 GET A HOMELESS VERIFICATION LETTER OR PROOF OF RESIDENCY

→ Complete the Homeless Verification Letter with a homeless service provider or an attorney. The form can be found at www.chicagohomeless.org/verification-letter/. It must be notarized. This form serves BOTH as proof of residency and as a fee waiver. Bring it to your local Secretary of State facility. The address of the service provider or attorney will be the address on your ID.

- OR -

→ Bring Proof of Residency and a $10 fee. Proof of residency can be a utility bill, an official school transcript or report card, a pay stub or bank statement, or a lease. For a complete list of other documents that can be used, visit www.chicagohomeless.org/other-documents/. Any document used must have your full name and address.