

1 AN ACT relating to the issuance of identity documents.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 186.400 TO 186.640 IS CREATED  
4 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *The Transportation Cabinet shall establish at least one (1) permanent, full-time, driver*  
6 *license regional office within each county with a population of fifty thousand (50,000)*  
7 *or more.*

8 ➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 186 IS CREATED TO  
9 READ AS FOLLOWS:

10 *(1) In any county in which at least one (1) permanent Transportation Cabinet driver*  
11 *license regional office is not located, the Transportation Cabinet shall expand the*  
12 *availability of driver licensing services by setting up a system in which the county*  
13 *clerk, through a mutual agreement between the clerk and the Transportation*  
14 *Cabinet, may issue operator's licenses and personal identification cards for*  
15 *residents of that county.*

16 *(2) In any county where the county clerk issues operator's licenses and personal*  
17 *identification cards pursuant to subsection (1) of this section:*

18 *(a) The Transportation Cabinet shall purchase and install all equipment and*  
19 *hardware necessary for the county clerk to begin performing driver*  
20 *licensing services; and*

21 *(b) The fees prescribed by Section 3 of this Act shall apply and the county clerk*  
22 *shall retain twenty-five percent (25%) from the portion of the fees directed*  
23 *to the license fund for each document request processed.*

24 ➔Section 3. KRS 186.531 is amended to read as follows:

25 (1) As used in this section:

26 (a) "GF" means the general fund;

27 (b) "IP" means instruction permit;

1 (c) "License fund" or "LF" means the KYTC photo license account created in  
2 KRS 174.056;

3 (d) "MC" means motorcycle;

4 (e) "MC fund" or "MCF" means the motorcycle safety education program fund  
5 established in KRS 176.5065;

6 (f) "OL" means operator's license; and

7 (g) "PIDC" means personal identification card.

8 (2) The fees imposed for voluntary travel ID operator's licenses, instruction permits,  
9 and personal identification cards shall be as follows. The fees received shall be  
10 distributed as shown in the table. The fees shown, unless otherwise noted, are for an  
11 eight (8) year period:

12 Card Type	Fee	LF	GF	MCF
13 OL (initial/renewal)	\$48	\$48	\$0	\$0
14 OL (Under 21) (Up to 4 years)	\$18	\$18	\$0	\$0
15 Any OL, MC, or combination				
16 (duplicate/corrected)	\$15	\$13.25	\$1.75	\$0
17 Motor vehicle IP (3 years)	\$18	\$16	\$2	\$0
18 Motorcycle IP (1 year)	\$18	\$13	\$1	\$4
19 Motorcycle OL (initial/renewal)	\$48	\$38	\$0	\$10
20 Combination vehicle/MC OL				
21 (initial/renewal)	\$58	\$48	\$0	\$10
22 PIDC (initial/renewal)	\$28	\$25	\$3	\$0
23 PIDC (duplicate/corrected)	\$15	\$13.50	\$1.50	\$0

24 (3) Except as provided in subsection (10) of this section, the fees imposed for standard  
25 operator's licenses, instruction permits, and personal identification cards shall be as  
26 follows and, unless otherwise noted, are for an eight (8) year period:

27 Card Type	Fee	LF	GF	MCF
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1	OL (initial/renewal)	\$43	\$43	\$0	\$0
2	OL (Under 21) (Up to 4 years)	\$15	\$15	\$0	\$0
3	Any OL, MC, or combination				
4	(duplicate/corrected)	\$15	\$13.25	\$1.75	\$0
5	Motor vehicle IP (3 years)	\$15	\$13	\$2	\$0
6	Motorcycle IP (1 year)	\$15	\$10	\$1	\$4
7	Motorcycle OL (initial/renewal)	\$43	\$33	\$0	\$10
8	Combination vehicle/MC OL				
9	(initial/renewal)	\$53	\$43	\$0	\$10
10	PIDC (initial/renewal)	\$23	\$20	\$3	\$0
11	PIDC (duplicate/corrected)	\$15	\$13.50	\$1.50	\$0
12	PIDC (no fixed address) under				
13	KRS 186.4122(5)/186.4123(5)				
14	(initial, duplicate, or corrected)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

15 (4) The fee for a four (4) year original or renewal license issued pursuant to KRS  
 16 186.4101 shall be fifty percent (50%) of the amount shown in subsections (2) and  
 17 (3) of this section. The distribution of fees shown in subsections (2) and (3) of this  
 18 section shall also be reduced by fifty percent (50%) for licenses that are issued for  
 19 four (4) years.

20 (5) Any fee for any identity document applied for using alternative technology under  
 21 KRS 186.410 and 186.4122 shall be distributed in the same manner as a document  
 22 applied for in person with the cabinet.

23 (6) (a) An applicant for an original or renewal operator's license, permit, commercial  
 24 driver's license, motorcycle operator's license, or personal identification card  
 25 shall be requested by the cabinet to make a donation to promote an organ  
 26 donor program.

27 (b) The donation under this subsection shall be added to the regular fee for an

1 original or renewal motor vehicle operator's license, permit, commercial  
2 driver's license, motorcycle operator's license, or personal identification card.  
3 One (1) donation may be made per issuance or renewal of a license or any  
4 combination thereof.

5 (c) The fee shall be paid to the cabinet and shall be forwarded by the cabinet on a  
6 monthly basis to the Kentucky Circuit Court Clerks' Trust for Life, and such  
7 moneys are hereby appropriated to be used exclusively for the purpose of  
8 promoting an organ donor program. A donation under this subsection shall be  
9 voluntary and may be refused by the applicant at the time of issuance or  
10 renewal.

11 (7) In addition to the fees outlined in this section, the following individuals, upon  
12 application for an initial or renewal operator's license, instruction permit, or  
13 personal identification card, shall pay an additional application fee of thirty dollars  
14 (\$30), which shall be deposited in the photo license account:

15 (a) An applicant who is not a United States citizen or permanent resident and who  
16 applies under KRS 186.4121 or 186.4123; or

17 (b) An applicant who is applying for a instruction permit, operator's license, or  
18 personal identification card without a photo under KRS 186.4102(9).

19 (8) (a) Except for individuals exempted under paragraph (c) of this subsection, an  
20 applicant for relicensing after revocation or suspension shall pay a  
21 reinstatement fee of forty dollars (\$40).

22 (b) The reinstatement fee under this subsection shall be distributed by the State  
23 Treasurer as follows:

24 1. Thirty-five dollars (\$35) shall be deposited into the photo license  
25 account; and

26 2. Five dollars (\$5) shall be deposited into a trust and agency fund to be  
27 used in defraying the costs and expenses of administering a driver

1 improvement program for problem drivers.

2 (c) This subsection shall not apply to:

3 1. Any person whose license was suspended for failure to meet the  
4 conditions set out in KRS 186.411 when, within one (1) year of  
5 suspension, the driving privileges of the individual are reinstated; or

6 2. A student who has had his or her license revoked pursuant to KRS  
7 159.051.

8 (9) As payment for any fee identified in this section, the cabinet:

9 (a) Shall accept cash and personal checks;

10 (b) May accept other methods of payment in accordance with KRS 45.345; and

11 (c) May enter into billing agreements with homeless shelters, health care  
12 facilities, or social service agencies that serve individuals without an  
13 established and fixed nighttime residence of regular return.

14 (10) There shall be no fee assessed for the initial, renewal, or duplicate standard personal  
15 identification card to an individual, if the individual:

16 (a) Does not possess a valid operator's license or a commercial driver's license;  
17 and

18 (b) Is at least eighteen (18) years of age on or before the next regular election.

19 **(11) For any document issued by a county clerk in accordance with Section 2 of this**  
20 **Act, the county clerk shall retain twenty-five percent (25%) from the portion of**  
21 **the fees imposed by this section that are directed to the license fund.**

22 ➔Section 4. KRS 186.577 is amended to read as follows:

23 (1) (a) The following persons shall submit to a test of visual acuity and visual field at  
24 the time of application or renewal:

25 1. All persons applying for an initial or renewal operator's license;

26 2. All persons applying for an initial or renewal instruction permit; and

27 3. Any person required to complete an examination under KRS 186.635.

- 1 (2) Vision testing under this section shall be administered to any person:
- 2 (a) Applying for an initial operator's license, an initial instruction permit, or
- 3 reinstatement of a license when vision must be tested as required in KRS
- 4 186.480:
- 5 1. Prior to the time of application under subsection (5) of this section; or
- 6 2. By Kentucky State Police at the time of application;
- 7 (b) Applying for operator's license renewal or instruction permit renewal:
- 8 1. Prior to the time of application under subsection (5) of this section; or
- 9 2. By the Transportation Cabinet at the time of application; or
- 10 (c) Identified in Kentucky administrative regulations promulgated by the
- 11 Transportation Cabinet or the Kentucky State Police as being required to
- 12 undergo the exam required by KRS 186.480.
- 13 (3) (a) Persons whose visual acuity is 20/40 or better and who meet or exceed the
- 14 visual field standard established by the Transportation Cabinet without
- 15 corrective lenses shall not have a restriction placed on their driving privileges.
- 16 (b) Persons whose visual acuity is 20/40 or better and who meet or exceed the
- 17 visual field standard established by the Transportation Cabinet with corrective
- 18 lenses shall have their driving privileges restricted to mandate the use of the
- 19 corrective lenses.
- 20 (c) If a person fails to meet a 20/40 visual acuity standard or the visual field
- 21 standard established by the cabinet, the person shall be referred to a vision
- 22 specialist for examination.
- 23 (4) A person referred to a vision specialist under subsection (3) of this section whose
- 24 visual acuity is 20/60 or better and who meets or exceeds the visual field standard
- 25 established by the cabinet shall be eligible to test for an instruction permit or
- 26 operator's license, or shall be eligible for operator's license renewal. If corrective
- 27 lenses were prescribed by the vision specialist, the person's driving privileges shall

- 1 be restricted to mandate the use of the corrective lenses.
- 2 (5) Vision tests administered under subsection (2)(a) of this section shall be deemed to  
3 meet the testing provisions outlined in subsection (3) or (4) of this section, if the  
4 person submits a driver vision testing form that complies with the provisions of  
5 subsection (6) of this section and the form has been completed by:
- 6 (a) A vision specialist; or  
7 (b) An osteopath, physician, or advanced practice registered nurse who is  
8 credentialed by the cabinet to perform vision testing under this section.
- 9 (6) All driver vision testing forms completed under subsection (5) of this section shall:
- 10 (a) Attest that the applicant meets or exceeds the visual acuity standard and visual  
11 field standard established by the cabinet;  
12 (b) Only be valid if the vision specialist or the credentialed osteopath,  
13 credentialed physician, or credentialed advanced practice registered nurse  
14 signed and completed the vision testing form less than twelve (12) months  
15 prior to the date of application or renewal;  
16 (c) State whether the driving privileges of the applicant shall be restricted to  
17 mandate the use of corrective lenses; and  
18 (d) Clearly indicate that the vision testing under this section is a screening for  
19 minimum vision standards established in this section and is not a complete  
20 eye examination.
- 21 (7) Any person seeking application or permit under subsection (1) of this section shall  
22 attest that he or she has submitted to and passed the visual acuity and visual field  
23 tests required under this section.
- 24 (8) Any person renewing an operator's license under KRS 186.416 shall be exempt  
25 from the vision testing requirements outlined in this section.
- 26 (9) Persons who meet the requirements of KRS 186.578 and are issued operator's  
27 licenses under KRS 186.579 shall:

1 (a) Have their driving privileges restricted to the use of a bioptic telescopic  
2 device; and

3 (b) Be exempt from this section.

4 (10) All driver vision testing results shall be disclosed to the driver in a private area or  
5 via private communications.

6 (11) The Transportation Cabinet shall ensure each driver license regional office is  
7 equipped with adequate vision testing equipment to support the average daily  
8 appointment volume.

9 (12) The Transportation Cabinet shall promulgate administrative regulations pursuant to  
10 KRS Chapter 13A to implement the provisions of this section, including but not  
11 limited to establishing visual field standards, the creation of a driver vision testing  
12 form, and establishing a credentialing process for osteopaths, physicians, and  
13 advanced practice registered nurses to conduct vision testing under this section.

14 (13)~~(14)~~ The Transportation Cabinet may promulgate administrative regulations  
15 pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A to:

16 (a) Implement a system for electronic transmission of driver vision testing forms  
17 and accompanying documentation; and

18 (b) Assess a fee to an applicant to cover the administrative costs of performing  
19 on-site vision testing. Any funds received from this fee shall be deposited into  
20 the photo license account established in KRS 174.056.

21 ➔Section 5. This Act takes effect July 1, 2026.