## Why do I need an ID?

Having identification can help you jump-start your life. An ID makes it easier to:

#### Get a job

Your employers will need you to show proof of identity before you start working.

### Cash a check

You need a photo ID to cash a personal or payroll check.

**Open a bank account** Most banks ask for your Social Security number and a government-issued ID.

**Rent an apartment** A photo ID is required to sign a lease.

**Apply for college** Colleges ask for your Social Security number and may ask for a photo ID.

**Travel on an airplane** Adult passengers have to show a governmentissued ID to board a flight.

**Receive public benefits like health insurance** To be eligible for some public benefits you need to prove your identity, age and residence.

### Get into government buildings for meetings and appointments

You need a photo ID to enter some government facilities.

**Get a library card** You need to prove your identity and your residence to get a library card.

**Get discounts at museums and theme parks** If you can prove that you're under a certain age, you can get deals on museum and theme park admissions. For all information on the ID = initiative, visit:

# www.nyc.gov/ GetYourID

**Department of Health and Mental Hygiene** www.nyc.gov/health

Social Security Administration www.ssa.gov Call 1-800-772-1213 Monday-Friday, 7:00am-7:00pm

Department of Motor Vehicles www.dmv.ny.gov/license.htm#nondriver Call 212-645-5550 or 718-966-6155 Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm



1 Birth Certificate



2 Social Security Card



**3** Non-Driver State ID





# How do I get a birth certificate?

If you were born in NYC, you can get your birth certificate from the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH). If you were born outside NYC, visit <u>www.nyc.gov/GetYourID</u> for more information.

**Apply Online** (Cost: \$23.30) If you are under 18, one of your parents must

apply for you. Visit the VitalChek website (<u>www.vitalchek.com</u>). You need to enter information about yourself and your parents and where you were born.

**Apply In Person** (Cost: \$15) If you are under 16, one of your parents must apply for you.

Bring **ONE** of these original, unexpired IDs with your picture **AND** signature:

- □ Non-Driver State ID
- D Passport
- Driver license
- Employee ID with current pay stub
- Student ID and current transcript
- NYS Benefit Card with photo
- Inmate photo ID with release papers (does not require signature on ID)

Or **TWO** different types of original documents showing your name and address:

Utility bill received within the last 60 days

- Telephone or cell phone bill received within the last 60 days
- Official letter(s) from a city, state, or federal government agency

Applications are available at the DOHMH office: 125 Worth Street, Room 133, in Lower Manhattan; open Monday-Friday, excluding holidays, 9:00am-3:30pm.

## How do I get a Social Security card?

You can get your Social Security card from the United States Social Security Administration.

If you have never had a Social Security number and are applying for the first time, you must also provide proof of age (either your birth certificate or passport). Photocopies are not accepted.

**Apply In Person or By Mail** (Cost: Free) Bring or mail **ONE** of these original, unexpired IDs with your picture:

U.S. driver license
Non-Driver State ID
Passport
Employee ID card
School ID card
Health insurance card (not a Medicare card)
U.S. military ID card

Applications are available at the Social Security office or online (<u>www.ssa.gov</u>). A list of Social Security offices is available online (<u>www.ssa.gov</u>). Hours vary by location.

# How do I get a non-driver State ID?

You can get a non-driver State ID from the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

Apply In Person (Cost: \$9-\$14) Bring:

 Your official birth certificate and Social Security card. Photocopies are not accepted.

AND 4 Points of Proof of Name. These include:

- Welfare/Medicaid/NY Food Stamp card with photo (3 points)
- U.S. high school ID card with report card (2 points)
- U.S. marriage or divorce record (2 points)
- U.S. computer printed pay stub (1 point)
- U.S. employee ID card (1 point)
- U.S. high school diploma or GED (1 point)
- U.S. utility bill (1 point)

A full list of accepted documents is available online at <u>www.nyc.gov/GetYourID</u>.

Applications are available at the DMV. You can go to any DMV office in NYC. A list of locations is available online at <u>www.nyc.gov/GetYourID</u>.