

Quick Stats

Agency	Program/Policy Start Date	Number Served Annually	Annual Budget
Mayor's Office of Operations	February 2012	N/A	N/A

Problem Statement	Lack of official identification poses a significant challenge to young people. Without an official ID, it is difficult to obtain employment, open a bank account, and access many public benefit programs. Unfortunately, young people lack IDs at much higher rates than their older adult counterparts – in great part, according to focus groups, because they lack knowledge on how to obtain them.
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Research and Evidence	Numerous organizations that work with formerly incarcerated youth have found that one of the major obstacles to re-entry is the lack of official identification and the fact that many of these individuals do not have access to information on how to obtain it. ¹ Additionally, city agencies report that with ID, many clients would have quicker access to public benefits and services.
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Program Description	<p>Mayor Bloomberg signed Executive Order (EO) 150: Helping New Yorkers Access Identification to increase access to forms of state and federal identification so that individuals can utilize public and private benefits and services. The EO directs city agencies to identify the best points of agency-client interaction to convey information about IDs and assist individuals in applying for them. The program focuses on three forms of ID: Birth Certificate, U.S. Social Security Card, and Non-Driver State ID.</p> <p>The City also launched a public awareness campaign, including a user-friendly website – www.nyc.gov/getyourid - to provide New Yorkers with vital information, including: 1) the benefits of obtaining ID; 2) how to obtain ID; and 3) assistance in navigating the state and federal agencies responsible for issuing IDs.</p>
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Implementation Timeline	Executive Order 150 was fully implemented in January 2012 and a public awareness campaign launched April 2012.
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Target Population	Adolescents and young adults in New York City
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Expected Outcomes	Increase in the number of adolescents and young adults with official government identification
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¹ *How to Obtain Important Documents*. Legal Action Center, 2006 <<http://www.hirenetwork.org/publications.html>>