INSTRUCTIONS FOR OBTAINING SOCIAL SECURITY CARD REPLACEMENTS

Primary Evidence

- U.S. driver’s license
- State-issued non-driver ID card
- U.S. Passport

The Social Security Administration (SSA) will accept an expired ID as long as it is less than ten years old and the person is still recognizable from the photo.

Secondary Evidence

- U.S. military ID card (not Veteran’s Administration card)
- Certificate of Naturalization
- U.S. Indian Tribal card
- U.S. government employee card
- Non-government employee ID card
- School photo ID card or school transcript which evidences the person’s name and date of birth and is certified by the school’s stamp or seal
- Life insurance policy, if it is the original policy and bears the person’s name
- Certified copy of a medical record, which should state the person’s name and date of birth and bear the medical provider’s seal or stamp
- Health insurance or Medicaid card – This card should state the person’s name and date of birth; the Social Security Administration also accepts insurance cards from providers that list all the family members’ names on the card.

What to do if you do not have and cannot obtain any of the above documents:

If you cannot obtain any of the above documents, tell the SSA Service Representative and ask to be issued a Denial Letter along with a computerized printout of your Social Security number.

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The Service Representative will ask you questions about your date and place of birth, your parents’ names, and may ask you to name the state where your mother was born. You will then be given the printout of your number, which should bear the red Social Security Administration stamp.

Take that printout with you when you apply for your state photo ID as evidence of your Social Security number. Once you obtain your photo ID, you can return to the Social Security Administration to apply for a replacement card. The card will be sent to you in the mail and usually arrives in a week or two.