

## New York City Municipal ID Fact Sheet



### **Background:**

Mayor Bill de Blasio announced the New York City Municipal ID card during his State of the City on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. The New York City Council passed legislation to create the Municipal ID program in June 2014. Mayor de Blasio signed the bill into law on July 10, 2014. The New York City municipal ID program will improve access to the City's benefits and attractions for all, including those who have been left out of those benefits due to the lack of basic government-issued identification. With a population of over 8 million, New York City has the potential to have the largest City ID cards program in the nation and be available for all NYC residents.

### **Benefits:**

Municipal ID cards will be **available to all NYC residents**, after providing proof of identity and residency.

The municipal ID will benefit communities that are unable to or have difficulty applying for other forms of ID (e.g., adults re-entering after incarceration, foster care youth, homeless, undocumented immigrants, and transgender individuals), and it will also benefit New Yorkers who wish to take advantage of discounts and other incentive programs to city attractions and businesses. Nearly 50% of adult New York City residents do not have a NYS driver's license, and can benefit from a municipal ID.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

**1. When will municipal ID cards be available?**

The municipal ID card will be available in January of 2015. No municipal ID card is available at this time.

**2. Who can get a municipal ID card?**

ALL New York City residents are eligible for municipal ID cards. Applicants will be asked to present proof of identity and residency in New York City.

**3. Where and how can I get a municipal ID card?**

The City will announce walk-in centers in all of the boroughs, as well as an online application that can be completed prior to visiting a walk-in center. The walk-in centers will be trusted community institutions such as

libraries and will be staffed by trained enrollment staff. The City will also create mobile enrollment units to travel to neighborhoods without walk-in centers.

**4. What type of documents can I use to prove my residency and identity?**

As evidence of identity, applicants can provide documents such as U.S. or foreign passports, U.S. or foreign driver's licenses, U.S. or foreign birth certificates, green cards, consular identification cards, individual taxpayer identification numbers (ITIN), electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards, and more. Depending on the documents presented, applicants may be asked to provide multiple items.

As evidence of City residency, applicants can provide documents such as driver's licenses, utility bills, leases, bank account statements, a child's registration in a NYC school, income tax or refund statements, written verification from a homeless shelter or social services agency, and more.

Rules establishing the full list have been drafted and will be finalized after the October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 public hearing to provide comment. The public hearing on the rules will take place on October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 5:00PM. The location will be 1 Centre Street, New York, NY.

Final guidelines on the list of acceptable documents will be available closer to the launch date.

**5. What information will be on the municipal ID card?**

Applicant's name, photograph, signature, date of birth, and the date the card was issued and the expiration date. Optional information may include emergency contact information and gender designation.

Some of this information may not be listed. This determination may be made on a case-by-case basis and at the discretion of the applicant, in the case of minors, survivors of domestic violence or others for whom inclusion of the information may pose a risk.

**6. How much will the municipal ID card cost?**

Enrollment will be **free** for initial applications in the first year of the program.

**7. How long is the municipal ID card valid for?**

The municipal ID card will be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issuance.

**8. How will I receive the card?**

The card will be printed off-site and mailed to applicants. Applicant's for whom mailing is not possible or not safe, such as homeless New Yorkers or victims of domestic violence, can pick up their cards in person.

**9. What are the benefits to getting the card?**

ALL New Yorkers, regardless of immigration status will be eligible to receive the municipal ID card. The card will grant access to all City buildings, to help residents interact with their local government, and will ensure access to City Services to the fullest extent the City can allow. The NYPD has agreed to recognize the card as valid identification for interactions with the police.

The City is working towards having the ID be recognized by private sector institutions, such as banks to open bank accounts, and connecting the ID cards with a number of discounts and other incentive programs. On September 18, 2014 the Mayor announced that municipal ID card will be give all card holders access to one-year free membership packages at 33 of the City's leading cultural institutions. More benefits will be announced closer to the launch of the card.

**10. Is there an age requirement to be eligible for the card?**

The City is in the process of determining whether there will be a minimum age for applicant's, and whether children under a certain age may require a parent or caretaker's consent to enroll.

**11. What happens to my information and documents after I provide them for my municipal ID card?**

All of the applicant's original documents provided to establish identity and residency will be returned to them.

**12. What immigration status do I have to have to get a municipal ID card?**

The City will *not* ask applicant's what their immigration status was and will not collect any information on immigration status.

**13. How will personal identity and residency information be protected?**

The City will protect the confidentiality of all municipal ID card applicants. Copies of application materials will be destroyed no later than two years after they are submitted.