

# MVD Procedural Quick Update

#70

**RE: Documents Required from Refugees**  
**Effective date: Immediate**

Date: July 18, 2008  
To: All MVD  
From: Mac Lewis, MVD Policy and Procedures Manager

*[This is the latest in a series of procedural updates. These updates deal with specific MVD procedures and practices. Managers and Supervisors should consistently distribute the updates to all personnel and integrate them into regular information and training sessions.]*

**The Employment Authorization Document (EAD) issued by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is acceptable as proof of identity for refugees, asylum seekers and others applying for New Mexico (non-CDL) drivers' licenses and identification cards.**

Here is a sample image of an Employment Authorization Document (EAD):



Any individual who has been issued an EAD (also known as a Work Permit) is also eligible for a Social Security Number (SSN). As such, the applicant will be required to submit a Social Security card, the Verification of Social Security Number printout provided by the Social Security Administration, or two documents to verify the SSN, as described in the Non-Commercial Driver's Licenses and Identification Cards chart and the New Rules Q&A.

The requirements for proof of New Mexico residency are the same for refugees and asylum seekers as for all other applicants, as described in the chart and Q&A.

Please note that, although this PQU calls special attention to refugees and asylum seekers who have experienced some difficulty in obtaining New Mexico DLs and IDs, the EAD is a photo ID issued by the U.S. Government. Accordingly, acceptance of the EAD is entirely consistent with the chart and Q&A as written. As with all such government-issued identification documents, an EAD is only acceptable if it has not expired by more than one month.

---

Field office managers and supervisors should refer any comments or questions regarding this Procedural Quick Update to their Bureau Chiefs, with cc to [mac.lewis@state.nm.us](mailto:mac.lewis@state.nm.us). Others are encouraged to direct comments or questions directly to Mac Lewis, MVD Policy and Procedure Manager, at [mac.lewis@state.nm.us](mailto:mac.lewis@state.nm.us).

---