Baker McKenzie.

I Am Here: obtaining your identification and vital documents

**Slovakia** 

# **Table of contents**

National Identification Cards.	4
What type of document can youth seek which will allow them to move around the country?	4
What is the process for getting a National ID card?	
Where can I find information online about getting a National ID?	5
What documents do I have to have to get a National ID? Is there any document that I must have to get an ID?	5
What if my documents do not have my correct name/address?	5
What if I only have foreign documents?	6
What happens if my documents are not accepted to get a National ID card?	6
Do I have to be a resident of the country to get a National ID card?	6
What does it mean to be a resident of this country? How do I prove residency?	7
What can I do if I do not have residency in this country?	7
Will I need a mailing address? What can I do if I am homeless?	
What is the application process? Can I complete it online?	8
Is there an application fee? Is there a waiver option if I cannot afford to pay it?	8
How old do I have to be to apply for a National ID card by myself?	9
What can I do if I do not have a parent or guardian who can go with me (and the application says I have to have one)?	9
At what age can I get a National ID card by myself?	9
Are there any special provisions for foster youth (children in custody of the government)?	9
Are there any special provisions for homeless youth?	9
Will I have to take a test?	9
Driver's License	10
What organization issues a driver's license in this country?	
What is the process for getting a driver's license?	10
What documents do I have to have to get a driver's license? Is there any document that I must have to get a driver's license?	
What if my documents do not have my correct name/address?	
What if I only have foreign documents?	10
What happens if my documents are not accepted to get a driver's license?	
Do I have to be a resident of the country to get a driver's license?	11

	What does it mean to be a resident of this country? How do I prove residency?	.11
	What can I do if I do not have residency in this country?	.11
	Will I need a mailing address? What can I do if I am homeless?	.11
	What is the application process? Can I complete it online?	.11
	Is there an application fee? Is there a waiver option if I cannot afford to pay it?	.11
	How old do I have to be to apply for a state driver's license by myself?	.11
	What can I do if I do not have a parent or guardian who can go with me (and the application says I have to have one)?	.11
	At what age can I get a driver's license card by myself?	.11
	Are there any special provisions for foster youth (children in custody of the government)?	.12
	Are there any special provisions for homeless youth?	.12
	Will I have to take a test?	.12
	If applicable, do I have to make an appointment to take the test?	.12
	Where can I take the driving test? What can I do if I cannot get to a testing location?	.12
	Do I need to get a permit or authorization to practice driving before I get my driver's license?	.12
Birth	Certificate	
	What is the document detailing a person's birth called in this country?	
	I'm not sure I have a birth certificate, what can I do to find out if I have one and where to get it?	
	How do I get a copy of my birth certificate?	
	Can I order my birth certificate online?	
	What documents will I need to get my birth certificate?	
	What happens if I don't have some or all of the documents that are required?	
	How old do I have to be to get a copy of my birth certificate by myself?	
	What can I do if I do not have a parent or guardian who can go with me to get a birth certificate (and the application says I have have one)?	
	What is the cost to get a birth certificate?	.14
	Is there a waiver if I cannot afford the fee?	.14
	Are there any special laws or provisions that can help get a birth certificate if I have been in the foster care system (children in custody of the government)?	.14
	Are there any special laws or provisions that can help get a birth certificate if I am homeless?	.14
	Where do I get my birth certificate if I was born in another country?	.14

Is there a way to get my birth certificate without going somewhere in	ı person?14	4
Where can I find information online about getting a birth certificate?	14	4
Making Changes to Government ID Documents	1!	5
What vital doc should I start with to change my name?	1	5
How do I change my name on my birth certificate?	1	5
How do I change my name on my National ID?	1	5
How do I change my name on my driver's license?	10	6
At what age can I change my name by myself?	10	6
What can I do if I do not have a parent or guardian with me to chang help me?	, , ,	6
What vital doc should I start with to change my gender marker? Is the	ne process easier for one of the IDs?10	6
How do I change my gender marker on my birth certificate?	10	6
How do I change my gender marker on my National ID?	10	6
How do I change my gender marker on my driver's license?	10	6
At what age can I change my gender marker by myself?	10	6
What can I do if I do not have a parent or guardian with me to chang help me?		6

## **National Identification Cards**

## What type of document can youth seek which will allow them to move around the country?

## **National Identity Card**

The Ministry of Interior indicated that a first identity card will be issued when a citizen reaches the age of 15, acquires citizenship (if it was not already issued), and registers a permanent residence (if it was not already issued) (ibid.). The SNSLP official indicated that the documents to be provided when applying for an identity card are:

Birth certificate (in case the birth certificate does not state the personal number, then also a document proving the personal number);

Confirmation on registering of permanent address issued by a competent authority (this does not apply if the information on current permanent address of the citizen has been registered in the registry of citizens of the Slovak Republic);

Other documents proving information to be recorded in the ID card (e.g. a diploma if a person wants to have his/her academic title listed). (Slovak Republic 3 June 2015)

#### **Residence Card**

How to obtain a residence card with electronic chip?

Citizen and State

In order to have access to the electronic mailbox, foreigners need their residence card with an electronic chip. They can apply for it at the nearest Foreign Police Department.

## Basic steps to obtain a residence card with an electronic chip:

- Fulfill conditions to obtain residency
- Pay administrative fee
- Apply

#### Residency

If a foreigner living in the Slovak Republic wants to obtain a residence card with electronic chip, he/she needs to have permanent, long-term or temporary residence here. The type of residency depends on conditions and aims of each and every applicant. This group is also divided according the country of origin – EU citizens and third country nationals.

To obtain residency, all applicants have to meet these basic conditions in Slovak language:

- passport or ID card,
- 2 passport size photos 3,5 x 3 cm,

- proof of address
- rental contract
- ownership certificate
- if the person stays with a friend or family, a written approval of the owner of the property is tolerated, with notarized signature and a certificate of ownership.
- a proof of the purpose of stay.
- Employment contract
- self-employment documentation
- self-sufficiency documentation plus proof of funds and health insurance
- confirmation of the education institute
- notarized declaration that someone is searching constantly for a job
- documentation of family relationship (spouse, children, other family members) with a Slovak citizen or resident

If an ID card (Pobytový preukaz občana  $E\acute{U}$ ) is needed, this is issued within 30 days, an express service fee is possible.

After five years, permanent residence is possible, and an ID card is issued in any case.

#### Slovakia: Residency for EU- and NON-EU citizens - Zugimpex

\*note: If there is more than one document that a young person should seek, you can duplicate the cards to address the questions for different types of iD!\*

#### What is the process for getting a National ID card?

In Slovakia, the national identity card, known as the **Občiansky preukaz**, serves as the primary identification document for citizens. The process for obtaining this ID card varies slightly depending on whether the applicant is applying within Slovakia or from abroad.

#### **Eligibility and Age Requirements**

- Mandatory Issuance: All Slovak citizens aged 15 and above with permanent residence in Slovakia are required by law to possess a national ID card.
- Optional Issuance: Citizens aged 3 to 14 years can also be issued an ID card upon request.

## **Application Process Within Slovakia**

- Where to Apply: Applications must be submitted in person at the local district
  police department corresponding to the applicant's place of permanent residence.
- 2. Required Documents:
  - Birth certificate or previous ID card (if applicable).
  - Proof of Slovak citizenship, such as a Slovak passport.
  - Proof of residence, like a utility bill or lease agreement.
- Biometric Data Collection: During the application, the applicant's photograph and signature are captured digitally.
- Fees:
  - The issuance of the first ID card is typically free of charge.
  - Replacement cards due to loss, theft, or damage may incur a fee.
- 5. Processing Time: The ID card is usually issued within 30 days of application.

## **Application Process from Abroad**

Slovak citizens residing abroad can apply for an ID card through Slovak consular offices.

- Where to Apply: Submit the application in person at the nearest Slovak embassy or consulate.
- Required Documents:
  - Previously issued ID card (if applicable).
  - Birth certificate.
  - Proof of Slovak citizenship.
  - Proof of residence abroad, such as a residence permit or utility bill.
- Biometric Data Collection: Similar to the domestic process, the applicant's photograph and signature are captured digitally.
- 4. Fees:
  - Fees vary by consular office and are determined based on local currency and regulations.
- Processing Time: The ID card is typically issued within 30 days, not including delivery time to the consular office.

#### **Additional Information**

- Validity:
  - For individuals aged 15 and above, the ID card is valid for 10 years.

- For children aged 6 to 14, validity is 5 years.
- For children under **6 years**, validity is **2 years**.
- Usage: The Slovak ID card can be used for travel within the European Union and certain other countries, eliminating the need for a passport in many cases.

https://www.slovensko.sk/en/start-now

https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/life-situation/ how-to-obtain-a-residence-card/https://expatsk.com/issuing-of-a-slovak-i-d-abroad/

## Where can I find information online about getting a National ID?

I need to go to the competent authority and apply for the National ID Card.

The Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic is responsible for issuing identity cards (ibid. n.d.a; ibid. 21 May 2015a). In correspondence with the Research Directorate, the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Ottawa provided information obtained from the Ministry of Interior, stating that a request for the issuance of an identity card shall be made in person at the competent district police department in the jurisdiction where the citizen has residence (ibid.). The SNSLP official indicated that if a person cannot file their application in person, it can be filed by another citizen with a power of attorney (Slovak Republic 3 June 2015). According to the Ministry of Interior, scanned images of the applicant's face and signature are taken at the district police department (ibid. 21 May 2015a).

# What documents do I have to have to get a National ID? Is there any document that I must have to get an ID?

- Completed application.
- Recent photo of the applicant.
- Birth certificate (in case the birth certificate does not state the personal number, then also a document proving the personal number);
- Confirmation on registering of permanent address issued by a competent authority (this does not apply if the information on current permanent address of the citizen has been registered in the registry of citizens of the Slovak Republic);
- Other documents proving information to be recorded in the ID card (e.g. a diploma if a person wants to have his/her academic title listed). (Slovak Republic 3 June 2015)

## What if my documents do not have my correct name/address?

I am sorry, I could not find any information concerning this question.

## What if I only have foreign documents?

All documents submitted with the application must **not be older than 90 days**. Each document issued abroad must be **authenticated** (either by an apostille or a consular superlegalization) and must be translated to the Slovak language by an <u>official translator</u> certified by the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic.

## What happens if my documents are not accepted to get a National ID card?

If the documents are not accepted to obtain a National Identification Card, the following remedies exist:

- Administrative Appeal: Citizens may file an administrative appeal with the Ministry of Interior, challenging the decision not to issue a National Identification Card.
- Judicial Review: if an administrative appeal is unsuccessful, citizens may seek a review of the decision by a court of law, such as an administrative court.
- 3. Complaint to the Public Defender of Rights (Ombudsman, Ombudsperson)

The **Public Defender of Rights** (in Slovak *verejný ochranca práv* or *verejná ochrankyňa práv*, if the holder of the office is a woman) is an independent state body for protecting your fundamental rights and freedoms. The term ombudsman (or *ombudsmanka* if the holder of the office is a woman) is also frequently used in Slovakia. The establishment of the institution of the Public Defender of Rights in Slovakia is laid down by the Constitution of the Slovak Republic and its functioning is specified by law.

How can it help you

Complaints about violations of human rights

The Public Defender of Rights can investigate complaints about potential human rights violations. However, the Ombudsperson may act only if your complaint is related to activities, decision-making or inactivity of a public administration body (e.g. local government, police local branch, prison guard, building authority, education office) affecting the enjoyment of your human rights and personal interests.

You can freely turn to the Ombudsperson's Office with any situation you consider as a human rights problem. However, if the merits of your case lie outside the scope of competence of the Ombudsperson, she might advise you to turn to another state institution, e.g. the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights (which is the anti-discrimination authority), the Centre for Legal Aid or the Labour Inspectorate.

After investigating your complaint, the Ombudsperson might determine that your human rights have been violated. In this case she would call upon the respective public administration body to rectify the violation. On the Ombudsperson's website you can learn more about the complaint procedure. Mind that the Public Defender of Rights is not a judicial organ, and she cannot interfere with the court procedures, either.

Who can turn to the Public Defender of Rights?

The Public Defender of Rights acts upon a complaint of a natural person or a legal entity or on her own initiative, if no other authority acts in the case of an obvious and serious violation of human rights. Anybody can turn to the Public Defender of Rights, be it a citizen of the Slovak Republic or an alien residing on the territory of Slovakia. In contacts with the Public Defender of Rights, natural persons may use their mother tongue. The costs of interpretation shall be borne by the state.

How can you file a complaint?

You can file a complaint in writing by mail (postal address below), or by e-mail (podnet@vop.gov.sk). You can also file a complaint verbally into the minutes. In this case you should visit the office personally after making an appointment beforehand with one of the officers. You can make an appointment either via e-mail or via phone consultation (+421 2 323 63 701). Your personal data and your right to private life are protected throughout the procedure, however, mind that the office is not obliged to deal with your complaint if it has been filed anonymously.

Complaints about discrimination

The Public Defender of Rights deals with discrimination only in the case of "vertical discrimination", i.e. when discrimination appears as a side-effect of a human rights violation by a public administration body. In the case of discrimination according to the so called anti-discrimination law you should turn to the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights, which is the Slovakian Equality Body or to some of the other specialised bodies listed in our Guide.

## Do I have to be a resident of the country to get a National ID card?

Yes, I need to be permanently living in Slovakia.

Permanent Residence

#### What is permanent residence?

Last Updated: 01 July 2021A permanent residence permit entails foreign nationals to long-term residence in Slovakia as well as journeys abroad and back. It is a more stable type of residence, which is granted to foreign nationals for a longer period than temporary residence. Foreign nationals with permanent residence permit enjoy the same rights and duties as all citizens of the Slovak republic in most areas of life (e.g. employment, health care, social affairs, and public life on the regional level).

#### Read more: What is permanent residence?

## Permanent residence for five years

Last Updated: 04 November 2022The Police Authority may grant the permanent residence permit for five years to a foreign national:

who is a spouse of a Slovak citizen with a permanent residence in Slovakia or who is a direct dependent relative of a Slovak citizen with a permanent residence in Slovakia

- who is a single child younger than 18 years and has been placed under the custody of a foreign national who is a spouse of a Slovak citizen with a permanent residence in Slovakia
- who is a single child younger than 18 years of a foreigner with a permanent residence permit for five years or a child younger than 18 years that has been placed under the custody of a foreign national with a permanent residence permit for five years
- who is a dependent child older than 18 years, not able to take care of himself/herself due to a long-term unfavourable health condition of a foreign national with a permanent residence permit
- or if it is in the interest of the Slovak Republic.

## Read more: Permanent residence for five years

#### Permanent residence for an unlimited time period

Last Updated: 04 November 2022 The Police Authority may grant a permanent residence for an unlimited time period to a foreign national, who:

- has held the permanent residence for five years at least for a period of 4 years;
- is a child younger than 18 years of age of a foreigner with permanent residence for an unlimited time.

## Permanent Residence - IOM Migration information center

## What does it mean to be a resident of this country? How do I prove residency?

See answer to above question.

## What can I do if I do not have residency in this country?

Slovakia to Apply Simplified Residence Procedures for Foreigners From January 2023

Slovakia to Apply Simplified Residence Procedures for Foreigners From January 2023 - SchengenVisaInfo.com

## The application for the temporary residence may be also submitted at the Foreign Police Department if:

- the applicant is residing in Slovakia on the basis of a valid residence permit
- the applicant is residing in Slovakia on the basis of a valid national visa
- the applicant does not need a visa to enter Slovakia
- the applicant is the holder of the certificate of a Slovak living abroad
- the applicant is the holder of tolerated residence (acc. to Paragraph 58 section 1, points a-c or section 2)

## The applicant must submit the following documents:

- completed application form
- 2. two identical colour **photos** (3 x 3.5 cm)
- proof of payment of the administrative fee (as required for the relevant type of residence)
- 4. valid travel document (passport)
- 5. document proving the **purpose** of residence
- 6. document proving a clear criminal record
- 7. confirmation of accommodation
- B. proof of financial coverage

All documents submitted with the application must **not be older than 90 days**. Each document issued abroad must be **authenticated** (either by an apostille or a consular superlegalization) and must be translated to the Slovak language by an official translator certified by the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic.

The applicant must enter the territory of Slovakia within 180 days of obtaining a temporary residence. Within 3 working days of arrival to Slovakia, the person must report the beginning of their residence at the Foreign Police and within 3 working days of receiving the residence card, they have to sign up for <a href="health insurance">health insurance</a>. Within 30 days of obtaining the residence card, it is also necessary to submit a document on health insurance in Slovakia and a <a href="medical report">medical report</a> not older than 30 days confirming that the person does not suffer from any disease which could endanger public health to the Foreign Police.

#### **APPLICATION**

An application must be submitted using an **official form** issued by the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic. You can download the **Application form for temporary residence** or **Application form for renewal of temporary residence**.

## Will I need a mailing address? What can I do if I am homeless?

Yes, you need a mailing address. However:

Under § 5 of the Act 253/1998 on Residence Registration of Citizens, a citizen whose permanent address status has been revoked on strictly legal grounds and who is unable to register a permanent address due to non-fulfilment of the conditions specified in §§3, 4 of the aforesaid Act is entitled to apply for registration of a permanent address at the Registration Office in the locality where he/she is [currently] accommodated. In the latter case the citizen shall submit only a valid personal identity card or a certified statement respecting personal identity, but in the absence of either, a valid travel document issued by the Slovak Republic or a certificate of citizenship. As for the place of permanent residence, the citizen is to specify only the community in which he/she is currently residing. The address of the Community Administration Office for that community shall serve as the address of the citizen for the transmittal of the documentation from the public administration agencies and other government agencies for purposes of registration on the electoral roll.

The Community Administration is under an obligation to notify the citizen (i.e. the registration applicant), especially through its official bulletin board, following the usual procedure for the community, that documentation has either been forwarded or is to be forwarded to its Office for his/her attention. (Slovak Republic 18 May 2015)

The SNSLP official indicated that the legislation of the Slovak Republic "provides safeguards" in order to allow Slovak citizens living in Slovakia to obtain identity cards "even in situations when they cannot establish their permanent address," and explained:

[u]nder Article 5 of the Act No. 253/1998 Coll. on Residence Registration of Citizens, a person, whose permanent address has been cancelled and who cannot register his/her permanent address pursuant to the standard requirements, can register his/her permanent address in a registration office in a place where he resides. A registration office is either a municipal office, city hall or office of city district (in Bratislava and Košice). Hence, a homeless person or a person living on a settlement can register the address of the municipal office as their permanent address. Upon registration of this address they can apply for an ID card. The ID card then states the address of the municipal office as holder's address.

Moreover, under the Act on Residence Registration of Citizens it is possible to register address of a relative or other person for the purposes of permanent residence (in order to apply for an ID card as a subsequent step). The Act on Residence Registration of Citizens conditions these cases by a written confirmation on approval to register a permanent address with a verified signature of the owner or all co-owners of the building (part of the building). The confirmation shall include also a name, surname, personal number, ID number and permanent residence of the owner or all co-owners. This mechanism also applies for instance with regards to people who rent a flat [and] want to register their permanent address at its address. It can indeed be used by Roma who, with consent of their relatives, seek to register their permanent address of their relatives. (ibid. 21 May 2015b)

The CVEK representative similarly indicated that

[a] person can have their permanent residence registered basically anywhere, [and] if need be permanent residence can even be registered at a municipal office. **Roma** living in settlements sometimes have their residence registered at the municipality office or at their relatives' address. But settlements also do have addresses - even if it is only a name of the neighbourhood. (CVEK 26 May 2015)

In correspondence with the Research Directorate, a former policy advisor for the Bratislavabased NGO Roma Institute indicated that

Slovak law stipulates that local (municipal) government has an obligation to register any Slovak citizen for permanent residence in [the] municipality where they live. To be registered, the person does not have to possess any dwelling or place to stay. Even in cases of homeless people, the local government has an obligation to register the person to [the] address of the municipal office (seat of the local government), where the persons in question can receive the mail etc. (Former Policy Advisor 6 May 2015)

## What is the application process? Can I complete it online?

#### General application

- Go to any District Police Directorate in Slovakia
- 2. Fill up the application form provided at the District Police Directorate, the form can be found here: <a href="https://www.mzv.sk/web/en/ministry/diplomatic-guide/registration-of-persons-accredited-in-the-slovak-republic-and-issuance-of-identification-cards">https://www.mzv.sk/web/en/ministry/diplomatic-guide/registration-of-persons-accredited-in-the-slovak-republic-and-issuance-of-identification-cards</a>
- Submit the form and all other required documents (birth certificate and residency registration, Other documents proving information to be recorded in the ID card such as any academic title)
- 4. Have your photo and a sample of your signature by the officer.

## Online application

Online application for eID card which is a Slovak ID card with an electronic chip. It can be done at any document department of the District Directorate of the Police Force.

How to apply?: In e-Procedures section, you find all authorities, to whom you can send an electronic request.

## https://www.slovensko.sk/en/eidas

## Is there an application fee? Is there a waiver option if I cannot afford to pay it?

No fees for the very first ID card application or for an application submitted after expiry of an ID card

Application due to changes or addition of new data within the ID card: €4.50

Issue of an identity card due to loss or theft of an identity card issued with a validity of less than 10 years: €9

Issue of an identity card due to the loss or theft of an identity card issued with a validity of 10 years: €16.50

Destroyed, lost, stolen or damaged ID card repeatedly during two consecutive years: €33.00

Waiver option - Exemption of fee

- Young people to whom an identity card is issued because they have reached the age
  of 15 years and citizens to whom an identity card is issued because it has expired
- People who are issued an identity card after a change not caused by the citizen or if
  an error in the identity card caused by the manufacturer of the identity card or an error
  caused by the Police Service competent for issuing identity cards or by the Embassy
  of the Slovak Republic abroad is detected in the identity card
- People who are issued an identity card in exchange for a valid identity card without an
  electronic chip

- Citizens who are issued an identity card after a restriction of legal capacity, after a change in the restriction of legal capacity or after the restoration of legal capacity
- Citizens over 15 years of age, if there is a reason for exemption from the fee and at the same time new data are entered in the identity card or the data therein are changed or cancelled.
- 6. Citizens who are issued with an identity card due to loss or theft after the expiry date of the identity card which has been lost or stolen
- 7. Citizens who are issued an identity card because their identity card has been stolen if the identity card has been forcibly taken by another person and this has been reported to the competent Police Service or the competent police authority in the country where the incident took place.

Section 22a

https://www.slov-lex.sk/pravne-predpisy/SK/ZZ/1995/145/20210101#prilohy

## How old do I have to be to apply for a National ID card by myself?

A Slovak citizen 15 years old or older can apply for an ID card on their own. Under the age of 15, the application must be submitted by your legal representative.

Instructions for applying can be found here.

What can I do if I do not have a parent or guardian who can go with me (and the application says I have to have one)?

No information located.

## At what age can I get a National ID card by myself?

18 years old

Before 18 years old, parents must sign the application form

http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2017/mapping-minimum-age-requirements/applying-identity-card

Are there any special provisions for foster youth (children in custody of the government)?

Nothing located regarding children in custody of the government

## Are there any special provisions for homeless youth?

No specific information related to homeless youth but overall in regards with homeless people, under Article 5 of the Act No. 253/1998 Coll. on Residence Registration of Citizens, a person, whose permanent address has been cancelled and who cannot register his/her permanent address pursuant to the standard requirements, can register his/her permanent address in a registration office in a place where he resides. A registration office is either a municipal office, city hall or office of city district (in Bratislava and Košice). A homeless person or a person living on a settlement can register the address of the municipal office as their permanent address. Upon registration of this address they can apply for an ID card. The ID card then states the address of the municipal office as holder's address.

Source:

https://webarchive.archive.unhcr.org/20230521184158/https://www.refworld.org/docid/55952cb94.html

#### Will I have to take a test?

No test is required to obtain an identity card.

## **Driver's License**

## What organization issues a driver's license in this country?

A driver's license is granted by the competent Police Force authority (traffic inspectorate).

## What is the process for getting a driver's license?

Before the entitlement to drive may be granted, an individual shall:

- Complete a driving training in a driving school accredited in the Slovak Republic, prescribed for getting the driving license of the respective category, or a special training;
- Be medically fit to drive a motor vehicle of the respective category;
- Be permanently or temporarily residing in the Slovak Republic for at least 6 months;
- Pass a driving proficiency test ('proficiency test') or a special exam or to acquire the entitlement to drive motor vehicles by completing a specialized training;
- Meet the minimum age requirement;
- Have normal residence in the Slovak Republic or have been studying in Slovakia for at least 6 months;
- Meet specific obligations provided under the Act on road traffic if the person is subject to them.

Where can I find information online about getting a driver's license?

#### Driving licence r... (slovensko.sk)

In Slovak only: https://www.minv.sk/?vodicske-preukazy

# What documents do I have to have to get a driver's license? Is there any document that I must have to get a driver's license?

Documents you will need to get your drivers' license include:

- the driver's license application (in Slovak only).
- A certificate that you have passed a driver's education course, for which you can find eligible driving schools here: <a href="http://www.vodicak.sk/">http://www.vodicak.sk/</a>

- A valid Slovakian identity document that proves your age
- A certification by a Slovakian doctor that you are medically fit to drive.

Source: https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/life-situation/\_driving-licence-requirements/

https://www.minv.sk/?podanie-ziadosti-o-vyhotovenie-vodicskeho-preukazu-1

https://www.slov-lex.sk/pravne-predpisy/SK/ZZ/2009/8/20200409 (see Section 86 for medical fitness requirement)

## What if my documents do not have my correct name/address?

It is unclear, based on local resources (including the relevant laws), whether this would create an issue.

Relevant legislation: https://www.slov-lex.sk/pravne-predpisy/SK/ZZ/2009/8/20200409

Primary source: <a href="https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/life-situation/\_driving-licence-requirements/">https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/\_driving-licence-requirements/</a>

## What if I only have foreign documents?

If you have a \*foreign driver's license,\* then you can use that drivers' license if the license is valid and the issuing country is (a) in the <u>European Economic Area</u>; (2) <u>a Contracting Party to the Vienna Convention on Road Traffic</u>; or <u>a Contracting Party to the Geneva Convention on Road Traffic</u>.

However, within 60 days of obtaining residence in Slovakia, you must apply to exchange your license if you would like to avoid having to apply for a new license.

If you are attempting to apply for a new license with exclusively your foreign documents, that will not be possible, as you will need a valid Slovakian identification document. It is recommended to first obtain some sort of national identification prior to attempting to obtain a driver's license

Primary source: <a href="https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/life-situation/\_recording-exchange-and-renewa">https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/life-situation/\_recording-exchange-and-renewa</a>

## What happens if my documents are not accepted to get a driver's license?

Please refer to the other portions of this guide on obtaining the appropriate documents in Slovakia.

## Do I have to be a resident of the country to get a driver's license?

Yes, to get a driver's license you need to be permanently or temporarily residing in the Slovak Republic for at least 6 months.

## What does it mean to be a resident of this country? How do I prove residency?

The residence requirements for obtaining a driver's license are as follows:

- Permanent or temporary residence (i) for a minimum period of 185 days in the year (January-December) in which you file for a driving license or, (ii) in the year before, or (iii) being a student in Slovakia for at least 6 months.
- Normal residence in Slovakia or being a student in Slovakia for at least 6 months.

#### Source

## What can I do if I do not have residency in this country?

As a foreign national in Slovakia you may apply for one of the following types of residence:

- temporary residence
- permanent residence
- tolerated residence

More information can be obtained here: Residence of foreigners on the territory of the Slovak Republic - WebJET 8 (gov.sk) and here Residence of an foreigner, Ministry of Interior of the Slovak republic (minv.sk)

## Will I need a mailing address? What can I do if I am homeless?

Yes, you need a mailing address. If you are homeless or live on a settlement you can register the address of the municipal office as your permanent address. <u>Source.</u>

## What is the application process? Can I complete it online?

Sadly, it does not appear the application process is online. Instead, you have to go to your local Police Force office to apply.

But first, you will need to take a driving training course in a driving school accredited in the Slovak Republic, prescribed for getting the driving licence of the respective category, or a special training. You can find eligible schools here: <a href="http://www.vodicak.sk/">http://www.vodicak.sk/</a>

Second, you have to go to a doctor to be deemed medically fit to drive a motor vehicle.

Then, you must apply at your local Police Force office. You can find your local office here: (<a href="https://www.minv.sk/?strankove-dni-a-hodiny-na-pracoviskach">https://www.minv.sk/?strankove-dni-a-hodiny-na-pracoviskach</a>). Please note that when you apply, you must be permanently or temporarily residing in the Slovak Republic for at least 6 months. Click here for a copy of the application (in local language only).

You will then have to pass a driving proficiency test when you apply, including an aptitude test.

Primary sources: <a href="https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/life-situation/\_driving-licence-requirements/">https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/\_driving-licence-requirements/</a>

https://www.minv.sk/?vodicske-preukazy

## Is there an application fee? Is there a waiver option if I cannot afford to pay it?

The fee is 6.50 Euros for a new, renewed, or exchanged driver's license. This does not include the costs of: (1) attending an eligible driver's school, or (2) being deemed fit to drive by a doctor. It is unclear if there is a option to have any of these fees waived.

https://www.minv.sk/?zakon-c-145-1995-z-z-o-spravnych-poplatkoch

## How old do I have to be to apply for a state driver's license by myself?

You can apply for a license for a passenger vehicle when you are 17 years old. However, until your 18th birthday, you can only drive under the supervision of someone who has held a license for at least 10 years.

You can apply to drive a moped at 15, and a "light motorcycle" at 16.

Sources: https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/life-situation/\_driving-licence-requirements/

https://www.slov-lex.sk/pravne-predpisy/SK/ZZ/2009/8/20200409

# What can I do if I do not have a parent or guardian who can go with me (and the application says I have to have one)?

There does not appear to be any requirement that a parent or guardian go with you.

https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/life-situation/ driving-licence-requirements/

https://www.slov-lex.sk/pravne-predpisy/SK/ZZ/2009/8/20200409

## At what age can I get a driver's license card by myself?

You can apply for a license for a passenger vehicle when you are 17 years old. However, until your 18th birthday, you can only drive under the supervision of someone who has held a license for at least 10 years.

You can apply to drive a moped at 15, and a "light motorcycle" at 16.

Sources: https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/life-situation/\_driving-licence-requirements/

https://www.slov-lex.sk/pravne-predpisy/SK/ZZ/2009/8/20200409

# Are there any special provisions for foster youth (children in custody of the government)?

We were unable to locate any resources that would indicate any special provisions for foster youth, as opposed to any other children.

## Are there any special provisions for homeless youth?

We were not able to locate any special provisions for homeless youth. According to <u>a report</u> <u>before the European Commission</u>, there is a "lack of an integrated, strategic approach to homelessness" in Slovakia.

#### Will I have to take a test?

You need to pass a driving proficiency test ('proficiency test') or a special exam or to acquire the entitlement to drive motor vehicles by completing a specialized training.

The proficiency test comprises a theory exam and a driving test. The special exam comprises only a driving test.

The theory exam has the form of a test. The driving test is divided into two parts – the first part of the test is performed at a training ground or in another suitable area with the exclusion of road traffic, the second part is performed in road traffic conditions, including city traffic.

Source: https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/life-situation/\_driving-licence-requirements/

#### If applicable, do I have to make an appointment to take the test?

You need to reach out to a driving school accredited in the Slovak Republic.

https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/life-situation/ driving-licence-requirements/#:~:text=The%20theory%20exam%20has%20the,traffic%20conditions%2C%20including%20city%20traffic.

#### Where can I take the driving test? What can I do if I cannot get to a testing location?

The proficiency tests and special exams are held by police departments – district traffic inspectorates in the seat of the district and regional traffic inspectorates in Bratislava and Košice.

You can find your local office here: (https://www.minv.sk/?strankove-dni-a-hodiny-na-pracoviskach). Click here for a copy of the application (in local language only).

## Do I need to get a permit or authorization to practice driving before I get my driver's license?

You need to sign up at a driving school accredited in the Slovak Republic to complete your driving training.

In addition, you need to:

- Pass a driving proficiency test or a special exam or to acquire the entitlement to drive motor vehicles by completing a specialised training;
- Meet specific obligations provided under the Act on road traffic if you are subject to them.

For more information, we recommend reaching out to a driving school accredited in the Slovak Republic.

https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/life-situation/ driving-licence-requirements/

## **Birth Certificate**

## What is the document detailing a person's birth called in this country?

"Birth certificate" – Birth certificate (slovensko.sk)

# I'm not sure I have a birth certificate, what can I do to find out if I have one and where to get it?

Birth certificates are issued by the local civil registry office (matričný úrad) of the place where you were born. Alternatively, if you were born abroad it may have been registered with the nearest Slovak embassy or consulate

If you know where your birth occurred, you can contact the local registry office, or the relevant embassy/consulate. You can also apply for a replacement birth certificate through these avenues.

<u>The Ministry of Internal Affairs</u> manages the civil registry. When requesting a passport, you will generally need

- Proof of identity (passport, national ID card).
- Specific details of the birth (date of birth, place of birth, parent(s)' names).
- If applicable, proof of Slovak citizenship.

## How do I get a copy of my birth certificate?

Go to the Slovak Registry local issuance office of the area where you live. Complete an application form, attach your identity documents and pay the required fees.

https://www.streetchildren.org/legal-atlas/map/slovak-republic/legal-identity/can-a-child-obtain-retroactive-or-replacement-birth-registration-documents/

## Can I order my birth certificate online?

Yes, it is possible to get a birth certificate online.

The fee is EUR 2.50.

You will go to website for the electronic service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs – <u>Issue of an official extract (duplicate) of the registration document (minv.sk)</u>

To use the electronic services you will need an electronic identity card "elD card" and that will allow you to create and qualified electronic signature, it is free to get the elD card. You can also use a ID card with a chip.

You will get the birth certificate by post or by visiting the Ministry of Interior in Bratislava.

## What documents will I need to get my birth certificate?

- A child born in a valid marriage the father collects the birth certificate, he has to
  present the marriage certificate, valid identity cards of the parents, confirms with his
  signature the name chosen by the mother, while the surname is given based on the
  parents' agreement, indicated on the marriage certificate.
- A child born to a single mother the mother collects the birth certificate, she has to
  present a valid identity card and a declaration of her personal status.
- 3. A child born to a divorced mother the mother collects the birth certificate, she has to present a valid identity card and a valid decree of divorce (within 300 days of a final decree of divorce, the husband of the child's mother is recorded as the father, but after successful denial of paternity before court by the child's mother or father, the biological father may establish paternity at the Civil Registry.
- A child born to a widow the mother collects the birth certificate, she has to present a
  valid identity card and the husband's death certificate.

## What happens if I don't have some or all of the documents that are required?

In order to obtain a Slovak birth certificate, it is necessary to contact the registry office of the parent's (last) place of residence. The registry office will draw up a birth record which contains information about both the parents and the child at the time of the child's birth. The parents shall present a valid identity document.

As long as the applicant makes a submission to the Registry Office in the municipality where they were born, the municipality should be able to issue this free of charge.

Source: https://www.slovensko.sk/en/life-situation/life-situation/ birth/

## How old do I have to be to get a copy of my birth certificate by myself?

You can be any age, but the person requesting it must be eligible:

The person named on the birth certificate

- A parent of the person named on the birth certificate
- A spouse, child, or other person with a Slovak Court order

What can I do if I do not have a parent or guardian who can go with me to get a birth certificate (and the application says I have to have one)?

It is unclear if a child (person under the age of 18) can obtain a birth certificate.

Birth certificates can be obtained:

- by the person named on the certificate,
- by a parent of the person named on the birth certificate, if the same parent is also named on the certificate.
- if Slovakian Court issues an order to provide a copy to a spouse, a child or another person.

(ref. Act No. 154/1994 Coll. on Civil Registers)

## What is the cost to get a birth certificate?

If you are requesting a birth certificate for the first time it is free. After that, there is a fee of EUR 5 per additional copy.

## Source

#### Is there a waiver if I cannot afford the fee?

No, there is no waiver.

#### Source

Are there any special laws or provisions that can help get a birth certificate if I have been in the foster care system (children in custody of the government)?

Slovakia does not regulate the issue of children under the age of 18 who are applying for their own birth certificate but this is a fundamental human right under UNCRC Article 7 and 8.

In all EU Member States either parents or medical professionals should register the new born hence there should hopefully be a birth record that can be asked to the municipality where the child was born.

Source: https://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2017/mapping-minimum-age-requirements/applying-birth-registration

# Are there any special laws or provisions that can help get a birth certificate if I am homeless?

There is no specific law or provision that we can find but you can visit the local registry office (matričný úrad) where the birth was registered. They can provide guidance on the necessary steps to obtain a birth certificate.

### Where do I get my birth certificate if I was born in another country?

The application for registration is submitted through:

- embassy of the Slovak Republic in the respective state,
- registry office in which the citizen has a permanent residence,
- registry office in which the citizen had his last permanent residence, or
- any registry office, if the citizen did not have a permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic.

https://www.akmv.sk/en/legal-help/slovak-citizenship-for-a-child-born-abroad/

## Is there a way to get my birth certificate without going somewhere in person?

Yes, you can submit a request online and receive the same in the post.

## Where can I find information online about getting a birth certificate?

Birth certificate (slovensko.sk)

https://www.streetchildren.org/legal-atlas/map/slovak-republic/legal-identity/can-a-child-obtain-retroactive-or-replacement-birth-registration-documents/

## **Making Changes to Government ID Documents**

## What vital doc should I start with to change my name?

Digital change of names in Slovakia:

Filing an application for a change of name, change of birth name (minv.sk)

CHANGE OF NAME OR SURNAME. Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic - Public administration (minv.sk)

- An application for a change of name or a change of surname must be in writing and must contain:
  - (a) the name, surname, date and place of birth and social security number of the person to whom the application relates and the date and place of marriage if the person is a married man or a married woman,
  - (b) place of permanent residence in the Slovak Republic, place of last permanent residence in the Slovak Republic or place of habitual residence abroad of the person to whom the application relates,
  - (c) the name or surname chosen by the person to whom the application relates,
  - (d) the name, surname, date and place of birth of the spouse or minors, if the change of surname also applies to such persons,
  - (e) an indication of the nationality of the person to whom the application relates,
  - (f) the reasons for the request.
- An application for a change of name or a change of surname must be accompanied by the original or a certified copy of the following documents:
  - (a) the identity card of the person to whom the application relates, if any,
  - (b) other proof of identity of the person to whom the application relates.
  - (c) proof of citizenship of the Slovak Republic of the person to whom the application relates, if he is to have it,
  - (d) a public document or proof of citizenship of another state, if it is a change of name or a change of surname of citizens who are nationals of the Slovak Republic and at the same time nationals of another state, and the change is

intended to achieve a name or surname in a form that is in accordance with the law or tradition of that other state

An application for a change of name or a change of the surname of a minor is submitted by his parents, if they are his legal representatives, as a joint application. In the case of a minor over the age of 15, the application must be accompanied by his or her written consent with his or her officially certified signature. If only one of the minor's parents requests a change of name or a change in the surname of a minor, he shall also attach to the application

- the written consent of the other parent to his or her officially certified signature or a final court decision replacing his or her consent, if consent has not been given or if consent could not be obtained.
- a final court decision to deprive or restrict the other parent's legal capacity, if such a decision has been made.
- 3. The documents referred to in paragraph 2(c) and (d) shall not be submitted if the information system of the register of natural persons contains the data contained in those documents. The document referred to in paragraph 3(b) shall be presented in the form of an original or a certified copy thereof.
- 4. If both parents of the child have died, are unknown, have been deprived of full legal capacity or are unable to assess the consequences of changing the name or changing the minor's surname, the application for a change of name or a change in the minor's surname shall be made by the guardian appointed for the child.

For the change of name and surname, an administrative fee is levied according to the Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 145/1995 Coll. on Administrative Fees, as amended, in stamps according to the valid **Schedule of Administrative Fees**.

## How do I change my name on my birth certificate?

Application for change of name or surname of a child should be submitted by his/her parents. In case that child is older than 15 years, it is necessary to submit child's consent with the change with officially validated signature of a child.

https://www.mzv.sk/en/web/gknewyork-en/services/change-of-name-or-surname

## How do I change my name on my National ID?

Fill out the form on the <u>CHANGE OF NAME OR SURNAME</u>, <u>Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic - Public administration (minv.sk)</u>

Alternative you can connect with the local police department who is issuing new ID cards:

Page days and hours at workplaces

A citizen can apply for the issue of a driver's license, passport or the issuance of a new id card for lost, stolen or due to expiration at any department of documents of the Police Force.

Information about page days and hours can be found on the websites of the regional headquarters of the Police Force:

Page days and hours at workplaces, Ministry of Interior SR – Police (minv.sk)

## How do I change my name on my driver's license?

As the Police is issuing the drivers license in Slovakia - you can contact the local police department on below link:

Page days and hours at workplaces

A citizen can apply for the issue of a driver's license, passport or the issuance of a new id card for lost, stolen or due to expiration at any department of documents of the Police Force.

Information about page days and hours can be found on the websites of the regional headquarters of the Police Force:

Page days and hours at workplaces, Ministry of Interior SR – Police (minv.sk)

## At what age can I change my name by myself?

Over the age of 18 (adult) Ministry of Interior of the Slovak republic (minv.sk)

What can I do if I do not have a parent or guardian with me to change my gender marker and do not have anyone else who can help me?

You may be able to change your name yourself if you are over 15 years old.

https://www.mzv.sk/en/web/gknewyork-en/services/change-of-name-or-surname

What vital doc should I start with to change my gender marker? Is the process easier for one of the IDs?

Currently, there is no clear process for changing your legal gender in Slovakia.

The law (available here: 3<u>01/1995 Coll. - Act of the National Council of Slovak Beet... - SLOV-LEX</u>) says that you can request the Ministry to change your social security number where you have a medical opinion on your gender reassignment.

However, the Supreme Court of Slovakia decided that the law doesn't require you to get gender reassignment surgery in order to change your legal gender. See here: <u>Decision: The Regional Court in Banská Bystrica must reconsider the case concerning gender reassignment | Supreme Administrative Court of the Slovak Republic (nssud.sk).</u>

Change is expected in this area. As a result, some civil registry offices are delaying the processing of applications to change legal gender because they are waiting for the Ministry of Health to approve new standards.

See also the following useful resources:

Sex reassignment ... (slovensko.sk)

LGBT Rights in Slovakia | Equaldex

## How do I change my gender marker on my birth certificate?

As above – currently, there is no clear process for changing your legal gender in Slovakia.

## How do I change my gender marker on my National ID?

As above - currently, there is no clear process for changing your legal gender in Slovakia.

## How do I change my gender marker on my driver's license?

As above - currently, there is no clear process for changing your legal gender in Slovakia.

## At what age can I change my gender marker by myself?

As above - currently, there is no clear process for changing your legal gender in Slovakia.

What can I do if I do not have a parent or guardian with me to change my gender marker and do not have anyone else who can help me?

As above – currently, there is no clear process for changing your legal gender in Slovakia.

## **Disclaimer**

The materials and content provided on this website are for general information only and are not intended as legal advice. Although we strive to provide accurate and up to date legal information, we cannot promise it is error free or that it is suitable for your specific concerns. Therefore, you should contact an attorney to obtain legal advice for any issue specific to your situation. If you use the materials and information provided on this site or links to other websites, it does not create an attorney-client relationship between us or any providers of information you find on this website, and we take no responsibility for any information linked to this website.

The materials and content are provided as-is with no warranty of any kind. We disclaim all express and implied warranties, including the implied warranties of merchantability, fitness for particular purpose. Under no circumstances will we or our contributors be liable for any consequential, indirect, incidental, special or punitive damages or list profits, whether foreseeable or unforeseeable, under any legal theory. Some states do not allow the exclusion of implied warranties or the limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation and exclusions may not apply to you.

Please note that the I Am Here Platform is in development and does not represent the final version of the work product. We will continue to update this I Am Here Platform as updates and edits are received across the globe.

## bakermckenzie.com

© 2025 Baker McKenzie. All rights reserved. Baker & McKenzie International is a global law firm with member law firms around the world. In accordance with the common terminology used in professional service organizations, reference to a "partner" means a person who is a partner or equivalent in such a law firm. Similarly, reference to an "office" means an office of any such law firm. This may qualify as "Attorney Advertising" requiring notice in some jurisdictions. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.