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Deadline for 'Real ID' One Year Away

By GRANT GERLOCK · 21 HOURS AGO

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Iowa Department of Transportation Director, Mark Lowe

GRANT GERLOCK / IPR

Iowans need to be sure they have an up-to-date driver's license before new rules take effect at airports and federal buildings next year. Starting in October 2020, a [Real ID](#) will be required to pass through security lines.

The IDs have a yellow star in the corner and are issued by the state according to federal guidelines to prevent identity theft. Without a Real ID, the only way for passengers to go through security will be with a valid passport or military ID.

“We don’t want to tell you you can’t get on the airplane, but unfortunately that’s what we’ll have to do if you don’t have that driver’s license,” said Jamie Daly, a security supervisor at the Des Moines International Airport. “If you don’t have the star on there today, you should start making a plan now so that you can get one.”

So far, only about 36 percent of Iowans have a Real ID according to the state Department of Transportation, which started issuing them in 2013.

There is some extra paperwork involved. The DOT requires documents to verify a person’s address. Name changes must be documented, too. DOT director Mark Lowe said that’s often more of a burden for women updating their licenses.

“If you’re a woman coming in and you’ve got a passport that’s in your current legal name, use that as your proof of identity document because then we don’t need you to go get those name change documents,” Lowe said.

The federal government created Real ID regulations in 2005 as a counterterrorism measure to make state-issued identification more consistent and more difficult to counterfeit.

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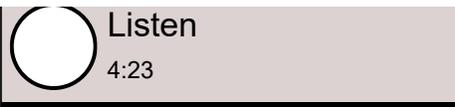
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One in eight Americans [live in urban areas](#), but 60 [percent of deaths from trauma](#) occur in rural areas. In Iowa, most rural emergency rooms are only equipped for basic emergencies -- and have limited budgets for staff and equipment. But a course led by trauma specialists is helping small ERs prepare for big emergencies.



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New Site Techstream Aims To Connect Students To IT Careers

By ROB DILLARD · 23 HOURS AGO



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Iowa has a labor shortage of technology professionals. In hopes of creating more enthusiasm for the IT field, the Technology Association of Iowa is launching a statewide database designed to connect K-through-12 students to computer-related programs and events.

[The website is called Techstream.](#) It lists various computer oriented activities around the state, such as cyber security clubs and coding sessions.

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Vacation season is in full swing, and with that, we get a refresher on the most common misconceptions when traveling by plane. On this edition of *River to River*, host Ben Kieffer speaks with a variety of guests about upcoming changes in the world of traveling via airplane. Specifically, what to do when going through [Transportation Security Administration](#) security, and how you can schedule your flight itinerary better.



