



NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD OFFICE



INFORMATION ABOUT THE TONGA NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD

1. What is the Tonga National ID card?

The National ID card is a security printed document which contains the cardholder's information and image as a means of proof of identity.

2. What data appears on the National ID card?

The front side of the National ID card displays data such as the cardholder's Personal ID No., Name, Date of Birth, Gender, Nationality, a personalized picture, signature and the expiration date of the card.

The reverse side of the card displays the cardholder's Residential address, driver's license (if provided during registration) and the serial number of the card.

3. When did registrations for new ID Cards begin?

Registrations for new ID Cards began on Monday 28th March 2011 and the Office is open for registrations every Monday to Friday from 9.00a.m. to 4.30 p.m. **New applications for National ID card are free of charge.**

4. Where do I register for a National ID card?

Registrations are done at the Tonga Electoral Commission Office located at Salote Road next to the Australian High Commission until further notice.

5. What are the requirements for registering for a National ID card?

Individuals at the age of 14 and over will be entitled to apply for an Identification Card at the Office of the National ID Card. They will need to fill the National ID card Application form and have their picture taken during registration. The applicant will also need to provide a supporting document in the form of: --Passport or Driver's License or Birth Certificate. The information provided by the applicant during registration is required to be accurate and true. If it is later proved that information provided is false, the applicant will be held liable and charged a fine of \$10,000 or imprisonment.

6. How long is the National ID card valid for?

The National ID card is valid for 5 years from the date that it was issued. The expiration date of the card can be found on the front side of the card. **Renewals of expired cards are free of charge.**

7. What happens if I my ID card is stolen, damaged or lost?

If an ID Card is destroyed, stolen or damaged, the holder of the card shall, no later than 10 days after the loss or destruction of the card apply for a replacement national identity card at the National ID Card Office. He will also be required to provide proof of loss, damage or stolen cards by providing a letter explaining the event.

Additionally, if any detail on the identity card changes, the cardholder shall within 10 working days notify the National ID card Office and provide all relevant information requested by the Office.

The applicant will be charged \$50.00 in the case where an ID card has been lost, damaged, stolen or amended. Payment will be made upon re-applying for an ID card.

8. Why should I apply for a National ID Card?

There are 3 main reasons of why one should apply for a National ID card:

- I. The National ID card is free for new applicants.
- II. The National ID card is a more convenient and efficient proof of identity document which you are able to carry around with you in your pocket compared to the passport and birth certificate.
- III. Effective method of decreasing identity fraud.

For more information please contact:

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