

Licenses, Tags and Permits

To Buy a License, Tag or Permit

- In person, go to any Idaho Fish and Game office or license vendor.
- By credit card, within the United States call 1-800-554-8685. Outside the U.S., use the Internet or mail.
- From your computer or mobile device, go to <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>.
- Commercial licenses, duplicate tags, documents that require proof of disability, lifetime licenses, and bear baiting permits may be purchased only at Fish and Game offices.

When buying licenses by telephone, the buyer, on request, will be assigned a confirmation number that may be used in lieu of the actual license for 14 days from the date of issue. When this number is used, the person must carry their driver's license or identification card. A confirmation number may not be used in lieu of a tag or salmon/steelhead permit. Purchasers must wait until tags or permits arrive in the mail. **Licenses purchased online must be printed from the buyer's computer; they will not be mailed.**

The charge for phone-in purchases is three percent of the transaction plus \$5.50; the charge for online purchases is three percent of the transaction plus \$3.50.

Any license, tag or permit that is defaced or altered is invalid from the date and time of issue. It is unlawful to use or attempt to use any license that has been defaced or altered.

Nonresidents: If you hunt with an outfitter in Idaho, the outfitter should buy your tags through the "outfitter set-aside" pool of tags. No outfitter should suggest that you buy your own tags from the general nonresident pool of tags.

Sale Dates: Most licenses and tags go on sale December 1, but resident deer, elk and pronghorn tags are not available until after the controlled hunt drawings are done. Most licenses are valid only for the calendar year for which they are issued.

Hunter and Bowhunter Education

- To buy a hunting license, all hunters must show proof that they have completed a hunter education course if they were born on or after January 1, 1975, unless they have held a valid hunting license from Idaho or another state.
- To buy an archery permit, all bowhunters must possess a valid hunting license and show proof they have completed an approved bowhunter education course or show evidence of having been licensed for an archery-only hunt in Idaho or another state, or complete an affidavit to that effect.

- Course and registration information can be found on Fish and Game's website or by contacting any Fish and Game office.
- **Individuals planning to participate in fall hunts are encouraged to enroll in a course before June 30, as the number of courses offered becomes very limited closer to fall hunting seasons.**
- Prospective hunters have three course options to receive their certification: **Instructor-led Course** – 12 to 18 class hours plus an outdoor field day and final written exam. **Online Course** – A two-phase course begins with a self-paced, online instruction and an online exam. An additional outdoor field day is required for hunter education. **Workbook Course** – Same material as the online course in a workbook format. Includes an outdoor field day and a final written exam. Available for hunter education certification only.

Refund Policy

No refunds will be made on resident licenses, tags or permits. Nonresident hunting licenses and tags may be refunded less issuance fees and a \$50 processing fee, in the event of:

- Illness or injury that disables a license holder for the entire applicable hunting season.
- Military deployment of license holder due to armed conflict.
- Death of the license holder's parent, spouse or child.

Tags and license must be returned with proof (death certificate, obituary, written justification by a licensed medical doctor, or copy of military orders). Hunting license fees will not be refunded after the license is used to apply for a controlled hunt or to buy a turkey, mountain lion, bear or gray wolf tag. The request must be postmarked by December 31 of the year in which the license was valid, except for "event of death" refund, which must be submitted within 1 year of the death.

A controlled hunt permit and tag may be made available in the same hunt for purchase by an immediate family member of a person who died before using his or her tag, and whose family had the fees refunded. Contact Licenses at (208) 334-2592.

If a refund is requested for any other reason, only the tag fees (not the license or permit fee) may be refunded at the following sliding scale rate:

- Postmarked before April 1 – 75 percent refund.
- Postmarked April 1 through June 30 – 50 percent refund.
- Postmarked July 1 through August 31 – 25 percent refund.
- Postmarked September 1 through December 31 – No refund.

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Resident Disabled Licenses

Anyone certified as eligible for federal supplemental income (SSI), social security disability income (SSDI), railroad retirement board disability, a nonservice-connected veteran's pension, or a service-connected veteran's disability benefit with 40 percent or more combined/overall disability rating, may qualify for a "disabled" license. Bring current year documentation when applying. Disabled licenses may be purchased at Fish and Game offices, selected license vendors (see website for list), and through the mail.

Disabled Hunter/Companion

The rules for a companion assisting a disabled hunter allow the companion to take an animal that has been wounded by the disabled hunter and to place and validate the disabled hunter's tags on the animal.

A companion assisting a disabled hunter who possesses a valid disabled combination license, or a disabled archery permit, or a disabled hunt from a motor vehicle permit and valid tag is not required to have an appropriate tag or controlled hunt permit to assist the disabled hunter.

The companion must accompany the disabled hunter while hunting and they are required to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices.

The companion must have a written statement of designation from the disabled hunter while hunting with the disabled hunter or assisting them with taking and tagging their harvested animal. The statement must include the disabled hunter's name, address, hunting license, big game tag number and the dates of the designation as a companion.

For more information about the rules for a companion to a disabled hunter, please contact your local IDFG office.

Resident Lifetime License Certificates

The purchase of a lifetime certificate could be the best investment you ever make. Lifetime certificates authorize all privileges associated with a corresponding annual license, are valid for the life of the certificate holder and are available to Idaho residents. The lifetime certificate does not include tags and permits. If a lifetime certificate holder moves out of Idaho, they will continue to receive an annual license, but will pay nonresident tag and permit fees. Lifetime certificates can be purchased at IDFG offices only.

Applicant	Combination	Hunting	Fishing
0 - 1 year	\$795.50	\$276.75	\$601.75
2 - 50 years	\$1,113.00	\$386.75	\$841.75
51 and older	\$636.75	\$221.75	\$481.75

Idaho Residency Requirements

A previous year's license is not proof of residency. Proof of residency is required to buy any resident license.

1. Drivers must present: A valid Idaho driver's license and must have been domiciled in the state of Idaho for the last six months immediately prior to purchasing a resident license, tag or permit. Owning real property or paying property taxes within the state of Idaho does not in itself establish residency. Claiming resident privileges in any other state or country will compromise your resident status in Idaho.
2. Non-drivers must present: An Idaho identification card issued by the Department of Transportation; or a combination of two documents bearing your name and address but not issued by yourself.

Examples include:

- Home utility bills for the previous six months.
 - Rent receipts or mortgage statements for the previous six months.
 - Notarized statement from an employer on business letterhead.
 - Proof of voter registration dated six months prior.
 - For a minor child under 18, identification from a parent.
3. Military members: A member of the military service of the United States or a foreign country, state National Guard or Air National Guard, together with spouse and children under 18 years of age, residing in his/her household, who have been officially transferred, stationed, domiciled and on active duty in the state of Idaho for a period of 30 days last preceding application, as long as such assignment continues, is eligible to purchase a resident license.

To show eligibility you need: A current "Military Status and Residency Affidavit" signed by first sergeant, section commander or commander; or a current request and authorization for permanent change of station showing a 'report no later than' date within the last 60 days; or a combination of two documents given in number two (2) above dated thirty (30) days prior.

This is a summary of residency requirements, for additional details see Idaho Code 36-202(S) and 36-405; <http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/idstat/Title36/T36.htm> or contact your local Fish and game office. Persons who do not qualify as residents must purchase a nonresident license.

Hunting Passports

Hunting Passports are available only to first time hunters. Anyone who has previously held a hunting license in any state is not eligible. For more information, visit: <http://Fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/licenses/?getPage=332>, or contact your local Fish and Game office.