



TWIC[®] Authentication & Security Guide

Next Generation TWIC

Version 2.3 August 2026

What is TWIC?



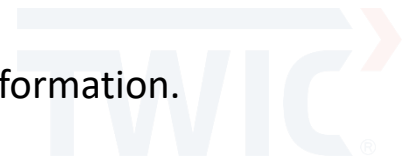
First issued by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in October 2007, the **Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC®)** is a **biometrically enabled card credential** mandated by the Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA) of 2002.

Administered by the U.S. Coast Guard and TSA, TWIC is a security measure designed to limit unescorted access to secure areas of regulated facilities and vessels. **Eligible individuals must undergo a security threat assessment** to determine that they do not pose a security threat to be granted unescorted access by facility and vessel owners or operators.

Since 2007, TSA processed more than 9 million TWIC enrollments, and it manages approximately 2.6 million active TWIC cards. **TSA conducts continuous monitoring on TWIC card holders to determine eligibility** based on interim and permanent disqualifying offenses.

The TWIC card maintains several overt, covert, and forensic features to securely authenticate and validate the card. **Authentication guidance provided in this document does not supersede facility or vessel physical security requirements** established by the U.S. Coast Guard, designated maritime authority, owner, and/or operator. Please contact your entity's security office for more information.

Please contact TSA at twic.issue@tsa.dhs.gov for more information.



TWIC® Authentication Features

Card Design – Front – Current Version

The TWIC card maintains several overt design features to promote secure use of the credential.

1. **Photograph:** Frontal facial photograph of the card holder.
2. **Credential Expiration Date:** Color-coded background that will update on annual basis.

2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
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3. **Card Holder's Full Name:** Last name, first name, and abbreviated middle name (first initial followed by period) in capital letters.
4. **Color Shifting Ink:** TWIC text and Propeller design color shift between red, gold, and green (depending on lighting conditions) when viewed from different angles.
5. **Tactility:** Card Identification Number (CIN) and Anchor design embossed on the card's laminate. (The CIN is an 8- digit number that can be validated to the CIN printed on the rear of the card.)
6. **Image Transition Effect:** Compass changes to U.S. Flag design when viewed from different angles. (Laminate)
7. **Letter Lenses:** T, W, I, and C letters visible within circle designs using LED light source. (Laminate)
8. **Kinetic image:** Rope design color changes when viewed from different angles. (Laminate)
9. **Image Glint/Reflection:** Anchor image visible within Compass design using LED light source. (Laminate)
10. **Shaped Lenses/Images:** Star designs partially covering photograph with color changes when viewed from different angles. (Laminate)



TWIC® Authentication Features

Card Design – Back

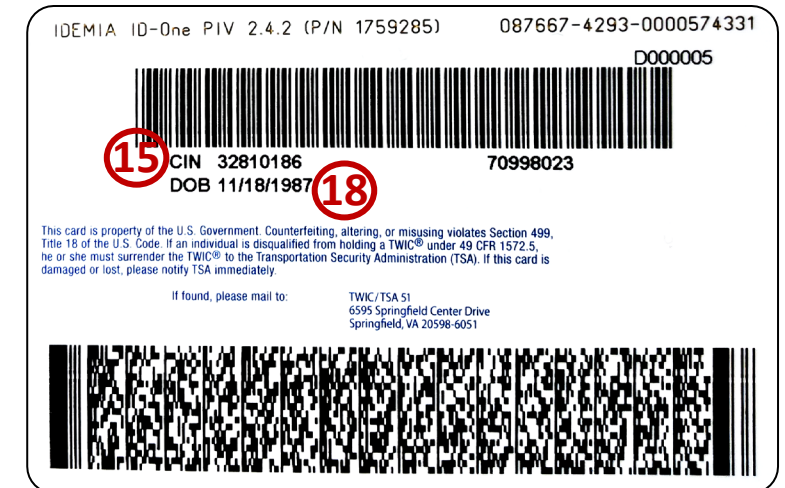
Previous Version Valid Thru July 2029



Current Version Cards Printed Since July 2024 & Valid Thru August 2031



Upcoming Version Cards Begins Printing August 2026



- 11. **Version:** TWIC® Card Version and Card Version Revision Date
- 12. **Facility Indicator:** Mint/card production facility indicator number
- 13. **Legal Notice:** Section 499, Title 18 Notice
- 14. **Return Address**

- 15. **Card Identification Number (CIN)**
- 16. **TSA Specific Codes**
- 17. **2-Dimensional PDF 417 Barcode**
- 18. **Date of Birth**



