

## **FAQ: New Belgian Identity card (ID) with digital fingerprints**

### **Can I apply for a Belgian identity card while residing abroad? Where can I apply?**

YES: if you reside abroad, you can apply for an e-ID, at the Consulate where you are registered.

An expedited yet more costly procedure is available at the town hall of your last residence in Belgium (or town hall of your place of birth or Belgian parent, if you never lived in Belgium).

The e-ID is a proof of Belgian citizenship and is a valid travel document within the EU and some other countries (+ 50 countries):

<https://www.ibz.rn.fgov.be/nl/identiteitsdocumenten/eid/op-reis-in-het-buitenland/>  
<https://www.ibz.rn.fgov.be/fr/documents-didentite/eid/voyager-a-letranger/>

Once you activate the e-ID **in person**, it can be used for identification purposes online and to login on applications of the Belgian government like Tax-on-web, MyMinFin, MyPension, as well as <https://econsul.diplomatie.be/> where you can manage your administrative file (change of address, download certificates, etc).

See complete list on <https://my.belgium.be>

### **What happens after June 21st, 2021?**

All identity cards issued by the EU member states must, according to European regulations, contain 2 fingerprints. From Monday 21 June 2021 on, applications will take place in person by appointment at the consulate (for adults and children from the age of 6).

This is necessary to guarantee proper identification, to take your fingerprints (from the age of 12) and to take a live photo on site (cfr. passport procedure).

### **My current e-ID is still valid. Do you I need to apply for a new one with fingerprints?**

NO, your current e-ID will remain valid and can be used until the date of expiration.

### **I cannot find my e-ID or it was stolen. What do I do?**

From June 21st, 2021 onwards, applications will take place in person by appointment at your consulate to replace the lost/stolen e-ID. If you lost it, you will complete a form "declaration of loss" at the consulate, if it was stolen, in addition you have to provide a police report. **Do not forget to contact [www.docstop.be](http://www.docstop.be) to block the card.**

### **Does my child need to be present when I apply for the Kids-ID?**

Applications for Kids-IDs for children under 6 can be sent by postal mail (as is the case for the passport). We recommend you ship with a tracking number.

For all other applications, the child has to be present at the Consulate for a live photo to be taken. Fingerprints are taken from the age of 12.

### **Do I have to pick up the e-ID in person? Does that mean I need to come to the Consulate twice?**

You still have the choice to get the e-ID or Kids-ID shipped to you, provided you include 2 prepaid return envelopes with tracking.

The activation can still be done (in person) at a later time at a consulate of your choice or in Belgium if you need the e-ID for online use.

### **Where can I get the e-ID activated to use online?**

Bring the e-ID and puk code that you received with the card **IN PERSON** to any Embassy or consular post of your choice, or at any town hall in Belgium in order to activate the electronic chip and to receive a PIN code.

In case you have difficulties using your new e-ID online (lost or forgotten PIN code), you can unblock or re-activate your e-ID at any Belgian Embassy, Consulate or town hall in Belgium of your choice.

### **What else is changing with that new e-ID ?**

You do not need to keep the PUK code of the new e-ID and Kids-ID **AFTER the activation of your card**. If you have forgotten the pin code of a new and activated card, you can visit any Consulate or town hall with your card for a new pin code.

### **Can you re-use the biometrics for future e-ID applications?**

For legal and privacy reasons, the photo, fingerprints, and signature that you have registered with a previous application for an e-ID cannot be reused for a new application (as is the case for the Belgian passport).

### **Can I apply for the e-ID during a flying consul mission?**

In the near future it will be possible to apply for the e-ID during a flying consul mission and get the biometrics registered. You will be informed as soon as more information is available.