



Department of
Health & Mental
Hygiene

Mayor's Office of
Immigrant Affairs

Human Resources
Administration



September 20, 2016

Dear Pharmacist,

We are writing to familiarize you with IDNYC, New York City's government-issued identification card, which is available to all City residents age 14 and older who provide proof of identity and residency. **IDNYC is a safe, secure, and widely accepted photo identification card issued by the City government, and is designed to meet stateⁱ and federalⁱⁱ standards requiring identity verification for persons purchasing and accepting delivery of prescription medications.** We encourage you to join the many pharmacies throughout the city that already accept IDNYC, helping thousands of people access the medications they need.

Since Mayor Bill de Blasio launched the IDNYC program in January 2015, more than 863,000 New Yorkers became IDNYC cardholders. These individuals include immigrants, senior citizens, and homeless New Yorkers, many of whom have no other form of U.S. government-issued ID. The IDNYC card enables cardholders to enter office and government buildings, including their children's schools; to pay for purchases with a credit card or check; and to perform other daily activities that require proof of identity.

We recognize that you have legal obligations to verify the identity of your customers for certain transactions. **An IDNYC card is issued only after a rigorous application process.** It is accepted by the NYC Police Department and throughout NYC government, when people apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), cash assistance, public housing benefits, and for myriad other purposes. It is accepted by the New York State of Health Marketplace, the City's public hospital system, and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. A sample image of the front and back of the card is included below.

Acceptance of IDNYC helps ensure access to medication for thousands upon thousands of patients in need. For a customer with no other portable proof of identity, IDNYC is their key to accessing needed medications. The IDNYC card also offers your pharmacy an opportunity to engage a huge number of customers who rely on the card. **We seek your partnership in continuing to build a more inclusive city, and we hope you will join us by ensuring that your pharmacy accepts IDNYC. You can show your acceptance of IDNYC by placing the enclosed decal on your pharmacy's window.** If you would like more information about IDNYC, please feel free to contact us at contactidnyc@hra.nyc.gov.

Very truly yours,

Nisha Agarwal
Commissioner, Mayor's
Office of Immigrant Affairs

Steve Banks
Commissioner, Human
Resources Administration,
Department of Social
Services

Mary T. Bassett, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner, Department
of Health and Mental
Hygiene

SAMPLE FRONT:



SAMPLE BACK:



ⁱ See 10 NYCRR §§ 80.73(e) and 80.74(f).

ⁱⁱ See 21 USC § 830(e)(1)(A)(iv) (incorporating by reference 8 CFR § 274a.2(b)(1)(v)(B)(1)(v), which lists an “identification card issued by federal, state or local government agencies or entities” as an acceptable form of identification).