

# ILLINOIS DRIVER'S LICENSE AND ILLINOIS STATE ID RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION GUIDE

The Secretary of State's office recognizes and respects the increasing diversity of religions practiced by Illinois residents. Members of many religions, such as Islam and Sikhism, wear religious head coverings, also known as articles of faith.

While hats or head coverings are generally prohibited from being worn in photographs used on Illinois driver's licenses and identification cards, customers may be photographed while wearing established religious head coverings, provided the head coverings do not cover the face. Photographs increase public safety. Examples of acceptable religious head coverings can be found in this flier.

## MUSLIM HEAD COVERINGS



Followers of the Islamic faith are called Muslims. Some Muslim women cover their head, based on religious belief and the Islamic injunction to dress modestly. They may wear a full-head covering or *hijab*, or a simple scarf over their hair. Some Muslim men wear a skullcap or *kufi* based on religious tradition.



## SIKH HEAD COVERINGS

Sikhism is a religion that originated in South Asia during the 15th century and is distinct from both Islam and Hinduism. For religious reasons, practicing Sikhs do not cut their hair. Sikh men wrap their long hair with a turban or *pagri*, a practice that typically takes 10-15 minutes. Sikh boys wrap their hair in a smaller under-turban or *patka*, with their hair knotted on top of their head. Some Sikh women also wear turbans; however, many opt for a cloth or *chunni* to cover their head.



**JESSE WHITE**  
SECRETARY OF STATE

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