

## **Obtaining a Driver's License/Obtaining a Car**

Your driver's license will be issued by the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) via an office in the County where you live in Ohio. Here is the link to the BMV website <https://www.bmv.ohio.gov/>. The Cleveland Clinic and most of the suburban cities immediately surrounding the Clinic are in Cuyahoga County. This document has suggestions for buying or leasing a car.

You will need to bring your passport, Form I-94 and Form I-797 or DS-2019. You will also need a letter from International Physician Services (IPS) which will be provided at your request. Please send your request to a member of the IPS Team. Your spouse and eligible children will also need to provide these documents including a letter from the IPS Team. Please include their name(s) in your request.

## **Renewing your Driver's License**

Your driver's license will be valid for the time listed on your Form DS-2019 (J-1) or your H-1B approval notice/Form I-94. J-1 Exchange Visitors may renew their driver's license as soon as they have their new DS-2019.

H-1B temporary workers are permitted to work and are considered to be maintaining status for up to 240 days after the expiry date provided an extension of stay has been filed before the expiry date. H-1B holders can extend their driver's license using a letter confirming employment (please request via email from IPS team) and the USCIS receipt (Form I-797C) confirming that the extension has been filed.

**Please note:** The Ohio BMV uses the U.S. Federal government S.A.V.E. system to verify your status in the U.S. Processing of this verification may take up to 2 weeks. Please apply for your new driver's license at least 2 weeks prior to its expiry date.