Data Elements and Privacy Concerns for Age Verification Mobile Drivers License

This document focuses specifically on the age verification process for mobile driver's licenses (mDL). It excludes any additional information that may be requested as part of a specific transaction.

You can request one of the following data elements for age verification with mobile driver's license.

Requesting Date of Birth:

Attribute: birth_date

Example: dd-mm-yyyy

Process: The mDL provides date of birth, and you can calculate age based on the provided information.

Requesting Age in Years:

Attribute: age_in_years

Example: 55 years old

Process: The mDL provides the age in years. No calculation is necessary, as the age is explicitly stated.

Requesting Age Over NN:

Attribute: age_over_NN

Example Format: age_over_18, age_over_21, age_over_55, age_over_65

Process: The mDL provides whether the age exceeds a specified threshold (e.g., 18, 21, etc.). The result is a simple true or false without revealing the exact age.

Requesting Birth Year (Least Accurate):

Attribute: age_birth_year

Example Format: yyyy

Process: The mDL provides the birth year, and age is calculated based on the year alone. This method is the least accurate as it does not account for the exact birth date and month.

Privacy Considerations

Privacy Levels:

Data Element	Privacy Note
birth_date	Least privacy-preserving
age_in_years	Better privacy-preserving
age_over_NN	Most privacy-preserving

Recommendations:

Most Privacy-Preserving Method:

Use age_over_NN whenever possible, as it only provides a true/false response without revealing the individual's exact date of birth or age.

Better Privacy-Preserving Method:

Use age_in_years when a specific age is required but avoid requesting the full date of birth unless absolutely necessary.

Least Privacy-Preserving Method:

Use birth_date only if the exact date is mandatory for the process.

Identity Verification

To ensure the individual using the mDL is the person associated with the credentials, you may also need to request a portrait along with the age-related attributes.

Example Requests:

- age_in_years + portrait
- age_over_NN + portrait
- birth_date + portrait

State-Specific Requirements

Note that some states may require additional information beyond age and portrait verification. This document provides a starting point, but you should adhere to the specific guidance issued by each state for compliance.

Summary

By following the outlined methods, you can balance the need for age verification with the individual's privacy. Always strive to use the most privacy-preserving option suitable for the transaction.