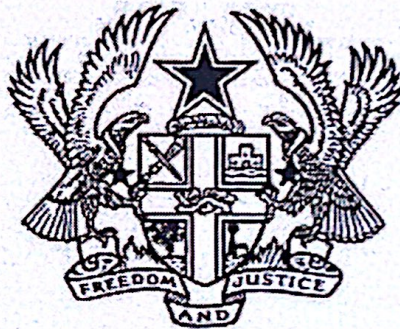




REPUBLIC OF GHANA

**NATIONAL IDENTITY REGISTER
(AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 2026
(L.I. 2523)**

NATIONAL IDENTITY REGISTER (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 2026

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

Regulation

1. Regulation 7 of L.I. 2111 amended
2. Regulation 9 of L.I. 2111 amended
3. Regulations 9A and 9B inserted

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IN exercise of the power conferred on the Minister responsible for the National Identification System by subsection (1) of section 73 of the National Identity Register Act, 2008 (Act 750) and on the advice of the Board, these Regulations are made this 2nd day of March, 2026.

Regulation 7 of L.I. 2111 amended

1. The National Identity Register Regulations, 2012 (L.I. 2111), referred to in these Regulations as the “principal enactment”, is amended by the substitution for subregulation (2), of

“(2) An organisation that offers any of the services in respect of a transaction listed under subregulation (1) shall, before providing the relevant service to the individual, verify the identity of the individual concerned through biometric authentication against the National Identity Database through a secured link.”.

Regulation 9 of L.I. 2111 amended

2. The principal enactment is amended by the substitution for regulation 9, of

“Verification of identity by biometric match

9. (1) Where an individual produces a national identity card or the personal identification number of a national identity card to

- (a) a person in compliance with a request under regulation 7, or
- (b) a person specified under subregulation (1) of regulation 8 in compliance with a request,

that person shall verify the identity of the individual by biometric authentication.

(2) The person shall ascertain the authenticity of the national identity card or the personal identification number of the national identity card and verify the identity of the individual by using a portable identity card reader or biometric device to

- (a) view the information on the national identity card from

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the data stored in the storage medium embodied in the national identity card or stored in the National Identity Database; and

- (b) scan the fingerprint or live picture of the individual and match the template of the live print or live picture with the template that is stored in

- (i) the storage medium embodied in the national identity card; or
- (ii) the National Identity Database through a secured link.

(3) A person who, without reasonable excuse, refuses to surrender a national identity card to allow a law enforcement officer or an authorised person to

- (a) authenticate or scan a fingerprint on the national identity card, or

- (b) take a live picture of the person

commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not less than fifty penalty units and not more than one hundred penalty units or to a term of imprisonment of not less than two months and not more than six months or to both.

(4) The Authority may, by notice published in the *Gazette*, specify the types of instruments approved by the Authority as portable identity card readers and biometric devices for the purpose of these Regulations.”.

Regulations 9A and 9B inserted

3. The principal enactment is amended by the insertion after regulation 9, of

“Verification obligations of organisation

9A. (1) An organisation that obtains a national identity card for the purposes of a transaction specified under regulation 7 shall

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conduct a biometric verification of the national identity card through

- (a) a match-on-card verification; or
- (b) a verification against the Register, with the use of a device or an equipment approved by the Authority.

(2) An organisation shall not, for the purposes of verification of the identity of an individual,

- (a) rely on a visual inspection of a national identity card;
- (b) request, rely on or reproduce a photocopy, a scanned copy or an image of a national identity card; or
- (c) employ any other biometric method that is not approved by the Authority.

(3) An organisation that contravenes subregulation (1) or (2) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction,

- (a) in the case of a body corporate, to a fine of not less than five hundred penalty units and not more than two thousand penalty units; or
- (b) in the case of a partnership or other under taking, a fine of not less than two hundred penalty units and not more than one thousand penalty units, payable by each partner or person.

(4) The Authority may, in addition to the penalty imposed under subregulation (3),

- (a) suspend or terminate the access of the organisation to the Identity Verification Services Platform; or
- (b) impose a surcharge of
 - (i) not more than twenty per cent of the annual verification service of an organisation which has been integrated for more than a year

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onto the National Identity Database for verification purposes; and

- (ii) not less than two thousand penalty units and not more than two thousand five hundred penalty units in the case of an institution which is not integrated onto the National Identity Database for verification purposes.

(5) For purposes of subregulation (1), “match-on-card” means a biometric verification process in which a biometric sample presented for verification is compared within a secure integrated circuit embedded in a national identification card against the corresponding biometric reference data securely stored on that card, without transmitting the biometric reference data off the card.

Verification obligations of individual

9B. (1) An individual who wishes to confirm the identity of another individual in the course of a private or informal transaction, shall conduct biometric verification in accordance with these Regulations.

(2) An individual who inspects a national identity card under subregulation (1) shall not

- (a) retain a photocopy, a scanned copy or an image of the card;
- (b) record, store or share personal data obtained from the card except as permitted by law or by the consent of the other individual; or
- (c) use a device or method purporting to conduct biometric verification unless authorised by the Authority.

(3) An individual who contravenes subregulation (2) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not less

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than fifty penalty units and not more than five hundred penalty units.”.

HON. MUNTAKA MOHAMMED-MUBARAK, MP

Minister responsible for the National Identification System

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Date of Gazette notification: 27th March, 2026.

Entry into force: 9th June, 2026.