



Important Passport & Travel Requirements

AIR TRAVEL

Implemented on January 23, 2007, **ALL PERSONS** traveling by **air** between the United States and Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, and the Caribbean region are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter or re-enter the United States.

LAND AND SEA TRAVEL

The following summarizes information available on the [Department of Homeland Security's website](#).

- **JANUARY 31, 2008**
U.S. and Canadian citizens will need to present either a [WHTI-compliant document](#), or a government-issued photo ID, such as a driver's license, plus proof of citizenship, such as a birth certificate. DHS also proposes to begin alternative procedures for U.S. and Canadian children at that time.
- **SUMMER 2008**
At a later date, to be determined, the departments will implement the full requirements of the land and sea phase of WHTI. The proposed rules require most U.S. citizens entering the United States at sea or land ports of entry to have either a U.S. passport; a U.S. passport card; a trusted traveler card such as NEXUS, FAST, or SENTRI; a valid Merchant Mariner Document (MMD) when traveling in conjunction with official maritime business; or a valid U.S. Military identification card when traveling on official orders.

The implementation date will be determined based on a number of factors, including the progress of actions undertaken by the Department of Homeland Security to implement the WHTI requirements and the availability of WHTI compliant documents on both sides of the border. DHS and DOS expect the date of full WHTI implementation to be in the summer of 2008. The precise implementation date will be formally announced with at least 60 days notice.

Note: The passport requirement does **NOT** apply to U.S. citizens traveling to or returning directly from a [U.S. territory](#).

U.S. PASSPORT AND OTHER TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

- **U.S. Passport:** U.S. citizens may present a valid U.S. passport when traveling via air, land or sea between the U.S. and the aforementioned Western Hemisphere countries.
- **The Passport Card:** This limited-use, wallet-size passport card is not yet available and is under development. When available it will only be valid for land and sea travel between the U.S. and Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean region (includes Bermuda).
- **Other Accepted Travel Documents:** SENTRI, [NEXUS](#), FAST and the U.S. Coast Guard Mariner Document. Members of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty traveling on orders

are exempt from the passport requirement. DHS has more information on these [travel documents](#). This information may be seen at www.dhs.gov.

Applying for a U.S. Passport

Applications for New, Expired or Lost Passport : To obtain a passport for the first time, if your expired U.S. passport is not in your possession; if your previous U.S. passport has expired and was issued more than 15 years ago; if your previous U.S. passport was issued when you were under age 16; or if your currently valid U.S. passport has been lost or stolen--you need to apply in person to one of the 9000 passport acceptance facilities or 13 regional passport agencies located throughout the U.S.

You will need to bring two photographs of yourself, proof of U.S. citizenship, and a valid form of photo identification such as a driver's license. For acceptance locations, instructions and forms please visit http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first_832.html

Renewal of a U.S. Passport: You can renew by mail if: Your most recent passport is available to submit and it is not damaged; you received the passport within the past 15 years; you were over age 16 when it was issued; you still have the same name, or can legally document your name change. You can get a passport renewal application form by downloading it from the website http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/renew/renew_833.html

Current Passport Processing Times - The best advice for when to apply is, "Apply Early!"

If You Apply	And Choose	You will receive your passport <i>within</i> about
At a Passport Acceptance Facility*	Routine Service	10-12 Weeks
By Mail (for renewal, additional pages, and amendment)	Expedited Service plus overnight delivery service for: Sending your application and Returning your passport to you	2-3 Weeks

For the most recent and detailed information regarding passport and travel requirements, please visit

http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html