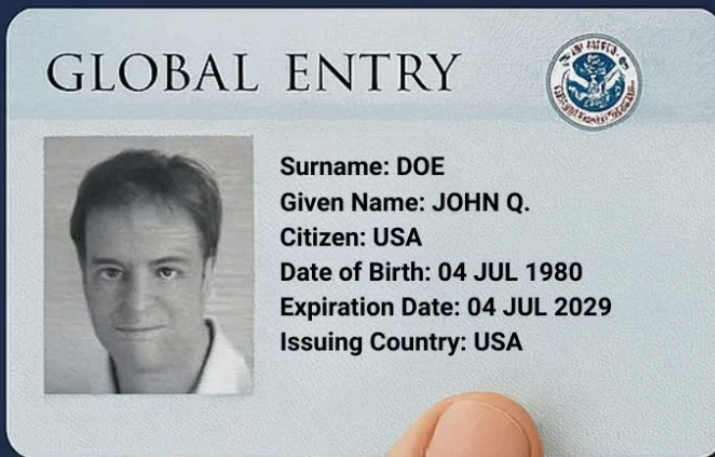


GLOBAL ENTRY 2025

The Complete Guide to Faster
International Travel

Fast-Track Your Application



GovClarity is independent and not affiliated with DHS or CBP.
Official Global Entry information is available at [ttp.dhs.gov](http://dhs.gov)

TSA PreCheck: Your Complete Guide for 2025

Skip the long lines and transform your airport experience. This comprehensive guide shows you exactly how to get TSA PreCheck in 2025, avoid costly mistakes, and maximize your travel benefits.

Key Statistics

20M+

Active Members

Over 20 million current active TSA PreCheck members.

94%

Short Wait Times

PreCheck passengers wait less than 5 minutes.

\$76.75

Lowest Fee

Lowest initial enrollment fee (IDEMIA provider).

5 years

Membership Duration

Membership lasts for 5 years from approval date.



What is TSA PreCheck?

TSA PreCheck is a government program that provides expedited security screening at U.S. airports for pre-approved, low-risk travelers. Unlike standard security lines, PreCheck members enjoy a streamlined experience that significantly reduces wait times and travel stress.

Core Benefits of TSA PreCheck



Faster Security Screening

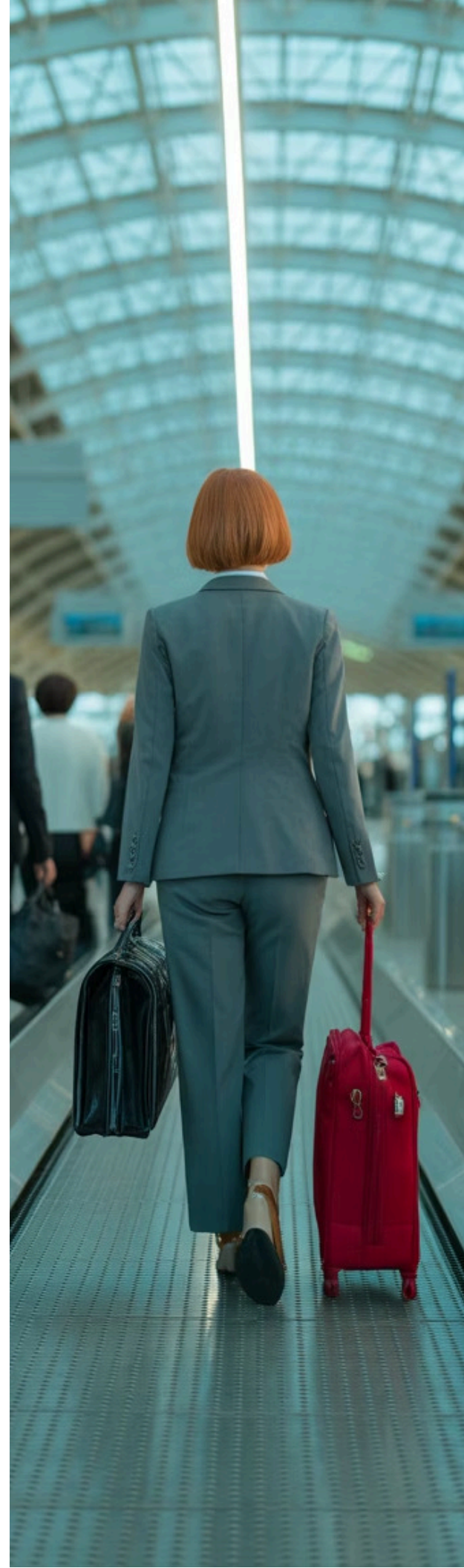
Breeze through security without removing shoes, belts, light jackets, laptops, or travel-sized liquids. Enjoy dedicated lanes with average wait times under 5 minutes, significantly reducing your airport hassle.



Long-Term Value

Benefit from a 5-year membership valid at over 200 participating airports and 80+ airlines. Use it for both domestic and international departing flights, making future travel consistently smoother.

- ☐ **Important Note:** TSA PreCheck does not guarantee expedited screening every time. Members may still be subject to standard screening or random additional security checks for security reasons.



Critical 2025 Update: REAL ID Requirement

Current REAL ID Enforcement

All travelers age 18 and older must now present REAL ID-compliant identification or an acceptable alternative to board domestic flights. **TSA PreCheck membership does NOT exempt you from this requirement.**

How to Identify REAL ID Compliance



REAL ID Driver's License/State ID:

- Look for a **star marking (★)** in the upper portion of your license
- Must be unexpired
- Issued by your state's DMV after meeting federal standards



Acceptable Alternatives to REAL ID:

- U.S. Passport (book or card)
- U.S. Military ID
- DHS Trusted Traveler cards (Global Entry, NEXUS, SENTRI)



Eligibility Requirements

Who Can Apply

Citizenship/Residency Status:

- U.S. citizens
- U.S. nationals
- Lawful permanent residents

Basic Requirements:

- Must pass criminal background check
- Provide fingerprints at enrollment appointment
- Submit to security threat assessment
- Have no disqualifying criminal offenses

Disqualifying Criminal Offenses

1

Permanent Disqualifying Offenses

(regardless of when they occurred)

- Espionage, sedition, treason
- Federal terrorism crimes
- Murder
- Crimes involving transportation security incidents
- Improper transportation of hazardous materials
- Unlawful possession, use, sale, distribution, or manufacture of explosives
- Extortion
- Armed or felony unarmed robbery
- Kidnapping or hostage taking
- Rape or aggravated sexual abuse

2

Interim Disqualifying Offenses

(if convicted within 7 years OR released from incarceration within 5 years)

- Unlawful possession, use, sale, manufacture, purchase, distribution, receipt, or transportation of firearms or weapons
- Dishonesty, fraud, or misrepresentation (excluding welfare fraud and passing bad checks)
- Bribery
- Smuggling
- Immigration violations
- Violations related to the possession, use, sale, distribution, or manufacture of controlled substances
- Arson
- Assault with intent to kill



What WON'T Disqualify You:

- Bankruptcy
- Civil judgments

Application Process: Step-by-Step


Step 1: Online Application (5 minutes)

Where to Apply:

- Visit tsa.gov/precheck (official government website only)
- **WARNING:** Only use websites ending in .gov to avoid fraudulent third-party sites

Information Required:

- Full legal name (exactly as it appears on identity documents)
- Date and place of birth
- Current address and address history for past 5 years
- Employment history for past 5 years
- Citizenship documentation information
- Criminal history disclosure (be completely honest)

 **Important Notes:**

- Save your application reference number
- You cannot pay the enrollment fee online for first-time applicants
- Review all information carefully before submitting

Step 2: Schedule In-Person Appointment

Enrollment Center Options:

TSA PreCheck appointments are held at designated enrollment centers operated by three authorized providers:

Provider	Initial Enrollment Fee	Locations	Notes
IDEMIA	\$76.75	516+ locations	Lowest cost option
TelosID	\$85.00	397+ locations	Standard pricing
CLEAR	\$77.95	261+ locations	May offer bundled services

How to Find Locations:

- Use the location finder at tsa.gov/precheck
- Enter your zip code to find nearest centers

Appointment Scheduling:

- Typically available within 1-2 weeks
- Can reschedule or cancel online

Required Documents & Appointment Details

Step 3: Prepare Required Documents

You must bring **original documents or certified copies** (photocopies not accepted) in one of these combinations:

Option A - Single Document:

Bring one of the following unexpired documents:

- U.S. Passport (book or card)
- Permanent Resident Card (I-551)
- FAST Card (indicating U.S. citizenship)
- U.S. Enhanced Driver's License (EDL) (indicating citizenship)

Option B - Two Documents:

Bring one valid photo ID and one proof of citizenship:

Valid Photo ID (choose one):

- REAL ID-compliant driver's license/state ID
- U.S. military ID (active, retired, or dependent)
- Native American tribal document with photo
- Valid TWIC or Merchant Mariner card

Proof of Citizenship (choose one):

- U.S. birth certificate (full version with official seal)
- U.S. Certificate of Citizenship (N-560/N-561)
- U.S. Certificate of Naturalization (N-550/N-570)
- Consular Report of Birth Abroad (FS-240)
- Certification of Report of Birth Abroad (DS-1350/FS-545)
- Expired U.S. passport (within 12 months)

Document Checklist:

- Primary identification document(s)
- Backup identification (recommended)
- Proof of name change if applicable (marriage certificate, court order)
- Payment method (see payment options below)

After Your Appointment

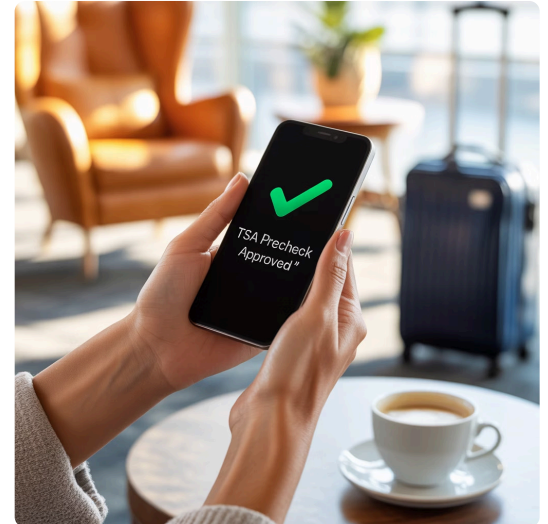
Approval Timeline

Typical Processing:

- **3-5 days:** Most standard applications
- **Up to 60 days:** Applications requiring additional review
- **Email notification:** You'll receive updates on your application status

What Affects Processing Time:

- Completeness of application
- Background check complexity
- Current application volume
- Need for additional documentation



Receiving Your Known Traveler Number (KTN)

Upon Approval:

- KTN sent via email
- 9-digit number unique to you
- Required for accessing PreCheck lanes
- Valid for 5 years from approval date

If You Forget Your KTN:

- Retrieve at tsa.gov/precheck using the "KTN lookup" tool
- Contact your enrollment provider
- Have personal information ready for verification

Using TSA PreCheck

Adding KTN to Flight Reservations

Every Time You Book:

- Enter your 9-digit KTN in the "Known Traveler Number" field
- Use the exact legal name from your PreCheck application
- Double-check spelling and number accuracy

Airline Profiles:

- Save KTN in your frequent flyer profile when possible
- Verify it appears correctly on each booking
- Update immediately if you change names



What to Expect at the Airport

PreCheck Lane Access:

- Look for "TSA PreCheck" signage
- Show boarding pass with PreCheck indicator
- Present valid ID (REAL ID compliant)

Expedited Screening Process:

- Keep shoes, belts, light jackets on
- Leave laptops and liquids in carry-on bags
- Walk through metal detector (not full-body scanner typically)
- Collect belongings and proceed to gate

Important Reminders:

- All standard prohibited items rules still apply
- Large liquids (over 3.4 oz) still prohibited
- Sharp objects, firearms, explosives still banned
- Maintain calm, cooperative demeanor

Common Mistakes to Avoid

Application Errors

1

Name Inconsistencies:

- ✗ Using nicknames or abbreviations
- ✓ Use full legal name exactly as on ID documents
- ✗ Different names on application vs. flight bookings
- ✓ Consistent name usage across all platforms

2

Payment Mistakes:

- ✗ Expecting to pay online for initial applications
- ✓ Bring accepted payment methods to appointment
- ✗ Bringing cash or personal checks
- ✓ Credit cards, money orders, certified checks only

Booking and Travel Errors

KTN Management:

- ✗ Forgetting to add KTN to reservations
- ✓ Add KTN to every flight booking
- ✗ Assuming PreCheck appears automatically
- ✓ Verify PreCheck indicator on boarding pass

Expectation Management:

- ✗ Expecting guaranteed expedited screening
- ✓ Understanding random additional screening may occur
- ✗ Bringing prohibited items to PreCheck lanes
- ✓ Following all standard security regulations

Membership Management



Renewal and Updates:

- ✗ Letting membership expire unexpectedly
- ✓ Renew up to 6 months before expiration
- ✗ Failing to update name changes
- ✓ Update immediately after legal name changes

Renewal Process

When to Renew

Timeline:


- Membership valid for exactly 5 years from approval
- Can begin renewal process 6 months before expiration
- Recommended to renew 3-4 months early to avoid lapses



Renewal Fees by Provider:


Provider	Online Renewal	In-Person Renewal
IDEMIA	\$58.75	\$66.75
TelosID	\$70.00	\$70.00
CLEAR	\$68.95	\$77.95

Renewal Options



Online Renewal (Recommended):

- Most convenient and cost-effective
- Complete at enrollment provider's website
- No additional appointment required
- Processing typically within 24-48 hours



In-Person Renewal:

- Available if preferred or required for updates
- Schedule appointment same as initial enrollment
- May be required for certain name or status changes
- Slightly higher fees than online option



Special Situations



Active Duty Military:

- **FREE TSA PreCheck** using DOD ID number
- Use your Common Access Card (CAC) number as KTN
- No separate application required
- Includes all standard PreCheck benefits



Military Spouses and Dependents:

- Not automatically eligible for free benefits
- **NEW for 2025:** Enrollment discounts for active duty spouses
- Can apply through standard process with potential fee reductions
- Check with enrollment providers for current military discounts



Gold Star Families:

- **NEW for 2025:** Waived enrollment fees
- Includes spouses, parents, children, and siblings of fallen service members
- Contact enrollment provider for specific application process
- Verification of Gold Star status required



Veterans and Retirees:

- Not eligible for free TSA PreCheck
- Must apply and pay standard fees
- Can utilize credit card reimbursements if available
- Consider Global Entry for additional benefits

Special Situations..Cont

Traveling with Children



Children 12 and Under:

- Can accompany enrolled adults in PreCheck lanes
- No separate KTN required
- PreCheck indicator not required on child's boarding pass
- Must be traveling with enrolled adult



Children 13-17:

- Can use PreCheck lanes with enrolled adults only if:
- On same airline reservation
- PreCheck indicator appears on their boarding pass
- Leave KTN field blank if child doesn't have own enrollment



Frequent Young Travelers:

- Consider separate enrollment for children who travel alone regularly
- Unaccompanied minors benefit from consistent expedited screening
- Standard application process applies for minors

Name Changes

When to Update:

- Marriage or divorce
- Legal name change
- Adoption
- Court-ordered name changes

How to Update:

- Contact your enrollment provider immediately
- Provide legal documentation of name change
- May require in-person appointment
- Update all travel profiles and bookings accordingly

Alternative and Complementary Programs

Global Entry

Overview:

- Costs \$120 for 5-year membership
- **Automatically includes all TSA PreCheck benefits**
- Expedites U.S. customs processing for international arrivals
- Best for frequent international travelers

Additional Benefits:

- Faster re-entry to U.S. from abroad
- Access to automated kiosks at major airports
- No additional forms for customs declarations
- Mobile Passport app integration



Application Process: More extensive background check



Conditional approval before interview



In-person interview at enrollment center



Higher documentation requirements

Alternatives ...Cont

CLEAR

i

Overview:

- Private program costing \$209 annually
- **Complements TSA PreCheck** (doesn't replace it)
- Uses biometrics (face, eyes, fingerprints) for identity verification
- Bypasses initial ID check line



How It Works:

- Scan biometrics at CLEAR kiosk
- CLEAR agent escorts you to front of security line
- Still go through standard or PreCheck physical screening
- Significant time savings when combined with PreCheck



Family Benefits:

- Children under 18 can accompany enrolled adult for free
- Household plans available for families
- Often bundled with airline or hotel loyalty programs

Credit Card Benefits

Fee Reimbursements: Many premium travel credit cards offer statement credits for TSA PreCheck or Global Entry fees:

Typical Coverage:

- \$85-\$120 credit every 4-5 years
- Some offer annual reimbursements
- May cover family member enrollments
- Check specific card terms and conditions

Popular Cards with Benefits:

- Chase Sapphire Reserve
- American Express Platinum cards
- Capital One Venture X
- Various airline-branded premium cards

Troubleshooting Common Issues

PreCheck Not Appearing on Boarding Pass

Immediate Actions:

1. Verify KTN was entered correctly during booking
2. Confirm name on reservation matches PreCheck application exactly
3. Contact airline customer service before arriving at airport
4. Check that membership hasn't expired

Prevention:

- Save KTN in airline frequent flyer profiles
- Double-check information during online check-in
- Set calendar reminders for membership renewal
- Keep backup documentation of membership

Application Delays or Denials

Common Causes:

- Incomplete background check information
- Name discrepancies between documents
- Undisclosed criminal history
- Outstanding warrants or legal issues

Resolution Steps:

1. Contact enrollment provider for specific denial reasons
2. Gather additional required documentation
3. Consider appealing decision if appropriate
4. Consult with legal counsel for complex criminal history issues

Lost or Forgotten KTN

Recovery Options:

- TSA KTN lookup tool at tsa.gov/precheck
- Contact enrollment provider customer service
- Retrieve from saved airline profiles
- Check email confirmation from approval

Frequently Asked Questions

1

Q: Can I use TSA PreCheck for international flights?

A: Yes, for departing flights from the U.S. However, it doesn't help with security in other countries or U.S. customs upon return.

2

Q: What happens if I miss my enrollment appointment?

A: You can reschedule online or by phone. Missing without notice may require rebooking with potential delays.

3

Q: Can I transfer my PreCheck benefits to family members?

A: No, TSA PreCheck is individual and non-transferable. Each traveler needs their own enrollment.

4

Q: Does PreCheck work at all airports?

A: PreCheck is available at 200+ airports with participating airlines. Check tsa.gov for current list.

5

Q: What if my background check reveals old charges I forgot about?

A: Be honest during application. Minor old offenses may not disqualify you, but dishonesty will.

6

Q: Can I expedite my application processing?

A: No, there's no way to expedite the background check process. Plan accordingly for travel needs.

Official Resources and Contact Information

Primary Contacts



TSA PreCheck Program:

- Website: tsa.gov/precheck
- Customer Service: 1-855-347-8371
- Hours: Monday-Friday, 8am-11pm ET; Weekends 9am-8pm ET

Enrollment Providers:

IDEMIA:

- Website: enrollment.identogo.com
- Phone: 1-855-347-8371
- Lowest enrollment fees

TelosID:

- Website: idemias.com/precheck
- Phone: 1-855-347-8371
- Standard enrollment option

CLEAR:

- Website: clearme.com
- Phone: 1-855-253-2701
- Additional biometric services available

Additional Resources

Official Government Sites:

- TSA Main Site: tsa.gov
- DHS Trusted Traveler: dhs.gov/trusted-traveler-programs
- REAL ID Information: dhs.gov/real-id

Mobile Apps:

- MyTSA (official TSA app)
- TSA PreCheck enrollment provider apps
- Individual airline apps for KTN management

Action Checklist

Before Applying

1

- Verify eligibility requirements
- Gather required identification documents
- Check REAL ID compliance or obtain acceptable alternative
- Research enrollment center locations and appointment availability
- Determine preferred enrollment provider based on cost and convenience

2

During Application Process

- Complete online application at tsa.gov/precheck only
- Schedule appointment within 2 weeks of completing online application
- Bring original or certified copies of required documents
- Arrive 10 minutes early for appointment
- Bring acceptable payment method (credit card recommended)

After Approval

3

- Save KTN in secure location
- Add KTN to all airline frequent flyer profiles
- Set calendar reminder for renewal 6 months before expiration
- Test PreCheck access on first flight
- Keep membership confirmation email accessible

4

For Each Trip

- Verify KTN is included in flight reservation
- Confirm PreCheck indicator appears on boarding pass
- Check acceptable ID for travel date (REAL ID compliance required)
- Arrive at airport with extra time for potential additional screening

Conclusion

TSA PreCheck represents one of the best investments frequent travelers can make, offering consistent time savings, reduced stress, and enhanced travel experiences for just \$76.75-\$85 over five years. The program's high approval rate and extensive airport coverage make it accessible and valuable for most eligible travelers.

The key to success with TSA PreCheck lies in proper application preparation, understanding the requirements, and maintaining consistent name usage across all travel bookings. With the REAL ID requirement now in effect, ensuring both your expedited screening enrollment and identification documents meet current federal requirements is more important than ever.

Remember that TSA PreCheck is just one component of a comprehensive travel strategy. Consider your international travel patterns when deciding between TSA PreCheck and Global Entry, and explore credit card benefits that can offset enrollment costs.



✅ **Ready to get started?** Visit tsa.gov/precheck today to begin your application and transform your airport experience for the next five years.

This guide is current as of 2025. For the most up-to-date information, always refer to official government sources at tsa.gov. GovClarity is not affiliated with the Transportation Security Administration or any government agency.

Document Version: 2025.1 | **Last Updated:** January 2025 | **Word Count:** ~4,500 words