

# U.S. Passport Application



PASSPORT



To apply for a U.S. passport, there are specific requirements depending on whether you're applying for a passport for the first time, renewing an existing one, or applying for a child. Below are the general requirements for a **first-time applicant**.

## 1. Proof of U.S. Citizenship

- Certified U.S. Birth Certificate** (must be an original or a certified copy from the state or local government, showing your name, date of birth, and place of birth).
- Previous U.S. Passport** (if applicable, for minors or adults who are renewing a passport).
- Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA)** (for those born overseas to U.S. citizen parents).
- Naturalization Certificate** or **Certificate of Citizenship** (for those who became U.S. citizens after birth).

## 2. Proof of Identity

- Valid Government-Issued ID** (such as a state-issued driver's license, military ID, or a previous passport).
- Photocopy of ID** (both front and back of the ID).

**Note:** If you don't have an ID, you may need to provide additional documents, such as a birth certificate and a recent photograph, to establish identity.

## 3. Passport Photo

- A **recent, color photograph** of yourself that meets the U.S. passport photo requirements.
  - The photo should be 2x2 inches, with a white or off-white background, showing your full face (no hats or glasses unless for medical reasons).

## 4. Passport Application Form

- Form DS-11:** This form is used for first-time applicants or individuals who do not meet the criteria for a passport renewal. It can be filled out online or on paper.
  - Do not sign the form until instructed by a passport acceptance agent.
  - The **DS-11** form can be found online at the [U.S. Department of State's website](https://www.state.gov/passport).

## 5. Payment

You must pay the passport application fee. The fees may vary based on the type of passport (e.g., 10-year or 5-year passport), and whether you want expedited processing.

- **For adults (16 and older):** \$130 for a passport book.
- **For minors (under 16):** \$100 for a passport book.

Payment can usually be made via check, money order, or credit/debit card, depending on the facility.

## 6. Submission

**First-time applicants must apply in person** at an authorized passport acceptance facility (e.g., post office, library, or courthouse). You will need to submit the completed DS-11 form, along with all necessary documentation and payment.

## 7. Additional Requirements for Minors

If you are applying for a child's passport (under 16 years old), both parents must typically be present to give consent, or you must provide a notarized statement of consent from the non-applying parent. A birth certificate showing both parents' names is usually required.

## Expedited Passport Service (if needed)

If you need a passport more urgently, you can request expedited processing for an additional fee. Expedited processing usually takes 2-3 weeks, but there are also emergency appointment services for critical travel situations.

## Renewal (if you already have a U.S. passport)

If you're renewing a passport (it's expired or close to expiring), you can often do this by mail. You'll need to complete **Form DS-82** instead of DS-11 and submit your most recent passport.

These are the general steps, and it's always a good idea to check the [U.S. State Department's website](#) for the most up-to-date information, including specific fees and any travel restrictions.