

Published based on [U S Passport Renewal Expedited Service - A Short Guide](#)

U S Passport Renewal Expedited Service - A Short Guide

Every traveler dreads coming close to an international travel date and finding that passports are expired. Fortunately, depending on the traveler's time frame, travelers have several alternatives for rushing their applications. To secure passport renewal expedited service, travelers should choose either mail or in-person renewal, complete the application, submit payment and submit all materials, including the old passport, to the nearest agency.

DS-82 Form

Passports may be rushed by mail under most circumstances. The US State Department website publishes estimated expedited processing times and allows citizens to trace the progress of their applications online. The State Department website also publishes the current rush fee and provides copies of DS-82, which is the form entitled "Passport by Mail."

By Mail

In certain situations, agencies will not allow renewal by mail. Passports must be submitted with the application and must be undamaged. Also, passports must be less than fifteen years old and must be in the citizen's current name unless a name change can be documented. In addition, the citizen must have been at least sixteen years of age when passports were submitted. If passports do not meet any of the preceding criteria, renewal by mail will not be possible.

Fees

Applicants renewing by mail should complete Form DS-82. Then, after looking up the current rush fee, applicants must contact their closest agency to obtain the address and to find out what methods of payment are accepted. Form DS-82, the old passport and the rush fee should be placed, unfolded, into a manila envelope. On the exterior of the envelope, applicants must write the word "expedited." In addition, the State Department recommends paying for two-way overnight courier service.

Faster Service

If the applicant's travel date is fewer than two weeks away, applicants must renew in person. To set up an appointment with a close-by agency, applicants should call the agency's automated telephone system. When the process is complete, travelers will have a confirmation number, an appointment time and an address. Applicants will be required to possess all application materials plus the rush fee and an itinerary or e-ticket confirming their departure date.

Five Days Or Less

Current law has a specific definition for expediting. Expedited passports are processed within five days of either receipt at an agency or the date that the processing request is approved. Currently, applications take approximately five to seven days to track online.

Private Agencies

To save time, applicants may choose to consult a private expeditor. Private expeditors may charge additional fees plus the rush fee but applicants will be spared the hassle of processing their paperwork and dealing with an agency. Before paying an expeditor, however, applicants will have to verify the existence of the expeditor's telephone number and receive a thorough explanation of fees. Checking for online reviews of the expeditor may also be helpful.

Finding out that the [passport](#) is expired shortly before scheduled travel may send citizens into a panic. However, the government allows expedited renewal via mail or, for those within two weeks of their travel date, via agency. For those who have no time to deal with passport procedures, a [U.S. passport renewal expedited service](#) will be able to help.

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