

GLOBAL ENTRY 2026

**NEW 2026
BIOMETRIC
RULES**



COMPLETE APPLICATION & INTERVIEW GUIDE



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1. WHAT IS GLOBAL ENTRY?

Global Entry is a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) trusted traveler program that expedites customs screening for pre-approved, low-risk travelers entering the United States.

Key Facts:



Key Facts

13M+

Members
as of 2025

\$120

Cost
for 5 years (\$24/year)

62

U.S. Airports
with Global Entry

16

**International
Locations**
with preclearance

- Includes TSA PreCheck (domestic flights)
- Covers air, land, and sea entry
- Valid at 62 U.S. airports and 16 international preclearance locations

2. 2026 UPDATES: CRITICAL BIOMETRIC CHANGES

  **EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 26, 2025**

New Biometric Requirements:

ALL non-U.S. citizens (including green card holders, children under 14, Canadian citizens, diplomats, and ALL previously exempted groups) **MUST have their photo captured** at Global Entry kiosks upon entering **AND** leaving the United States.

This removes ALL prior exemptions.

Data Retention:

- **Non-U.S. citizens:** Photos retained for up to 75 years in the DHS Biometric Identity Management System
- **U.S. citizens:** Photos deleted within 12 hours

What This Means:

- **U.S. citizens:** No change to your Global Entry experience
- **Non-U.S. citizens (including LPRs):** Expect automatic photo capture at kiosks; adds approximately 10-30 seconds to processing
- **Existing members:** No action required; changes happen automatically at kiosks

3. BENEFITS & COVERAGE

Expedited U.S. Customs Processing

(skip long lines)

TSA PreCheck Included

(domestic flights, \$78 value if purchased separately)

Air Entry

62 U.S. airports

International Preclearance

16 locations (Canada, Caribbean, Ireland, UAE)

Land Entry

U.S.-Mexico and U.S.-Canada borders

Sea Entry

Select seaports

Mobile App

Submit declaration from your phone before landing



4. COST & FEE STRUCTURE

Standard Fee

\$120

for 5 years (\$24/year)

Non-refundable (even if denied)

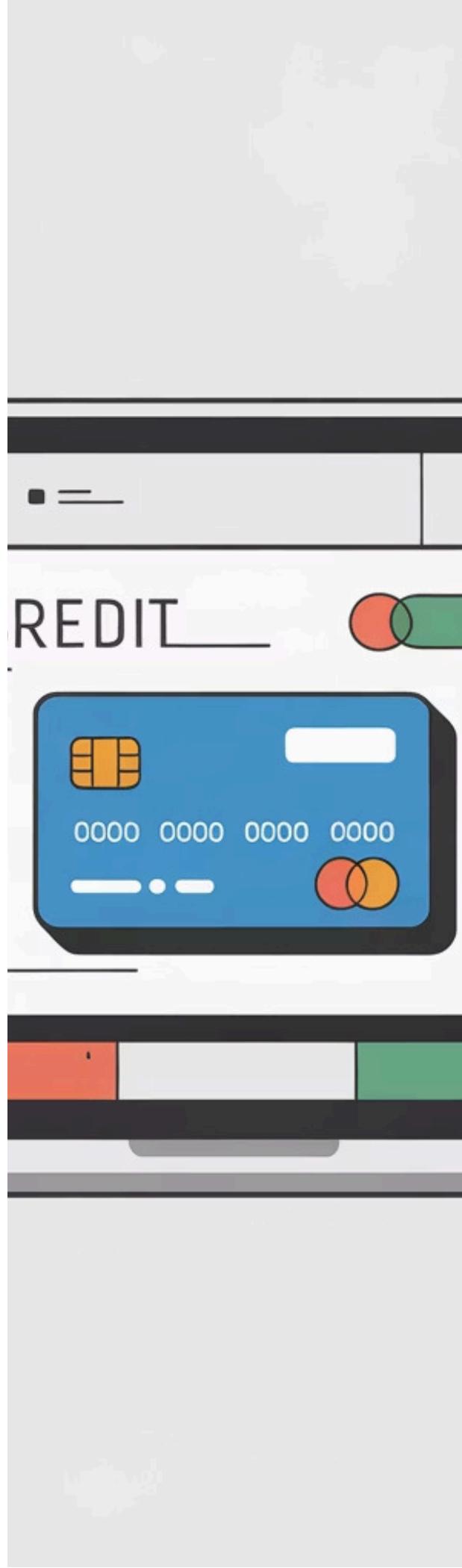
Effective October 1, 2024

Minor Fee Waiver (NEW - Effective October 1, 2024)

Children under 18: \$0 fee

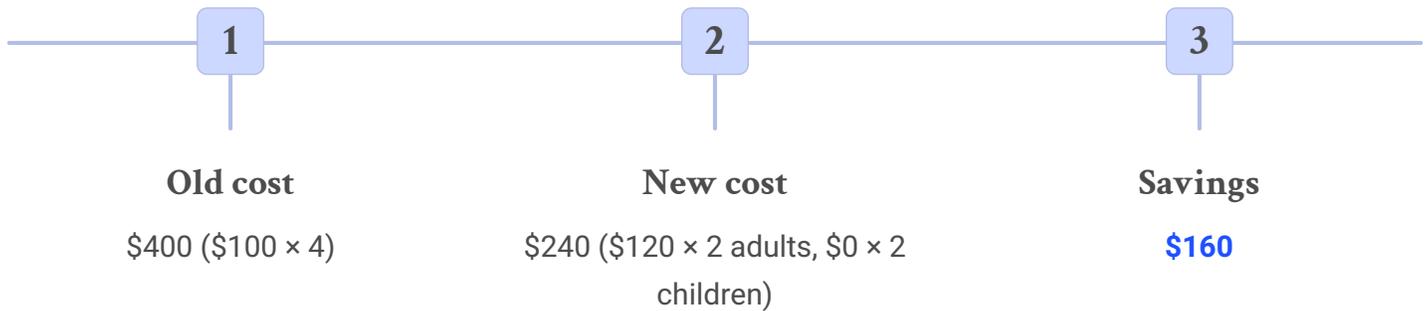
Requirement: Must apply concurrently with a parent/guardian who:

- Is an active Trusted Traveler Program member, OR
- Is applying at the same time



Family Savings Example

Family of 4 (2 adults, 2 children under 18):



5. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Who Can Apply?

- ✓ U.S. Citizens
- ✓ U.S. Nationals
- ✓ Lawful Permanent Residents (Green Card holders)
- ✓ Citizens of the following 22 countries:
 - Argentina
 - Australia (phased rollout in 2025)
 - Bahrain
 - Brazil
 - Colombia
 - Croatia
 - Germany
 - India
 - Israel (VWP citizens only; see note below)
 - Mexico
 - Netherlands
 - New Zealand (see note below)
 - Panama
 - Singapore
 - South Korea
 - Switzerland
 - Taiwan
 - United Kingdom

Note on Israel & New Zealand: While Israeli citizens can travel to the U.S. under the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) and New Zealand has expedited entry arrangements for U.S. citizens traveling to New Zealand, citizens of Israel and New Zealand **CANNOT** apply for U.S. Global Entry. These are non-reciprocal arrangements.

General Requirements

✓ **Valid passport**

(must not expire during membership)

✓ **Pass extensive background check**

✓ **No violations**

No customs, immigration, agriculture, or criminal violations

✓ **Complete in-person interview**

6. DISQUALIFYING FACTORS

You will be denied if you have:

✗ **Customs or immigration violations (even minor infractions)**

✗ **Pending criminal charges or outstanding warrants**

✗ **Conviction for DUI (Driving Under the Influence)**

✗ **Denied firearm purchase (federal background check failure)**

✗ **Provided false or incomplete information on any government application**

✗ **Been subject of customs/law enforcement investigation (even without charges)**

✗ **Violated terms of previous TTP membership**

📌 **Important:** CBP's background check is more thorough than TSA PreCheck. Even if you have PreCheck, you may be denied Global Entry.

7. APPLICATION PROCESS (STEP-BY-STEP)

01

Apply Online

Website: <https://ttp.dhs.gov>

Time: 15-20 minutes

Fee: \$120 (non-refundable)

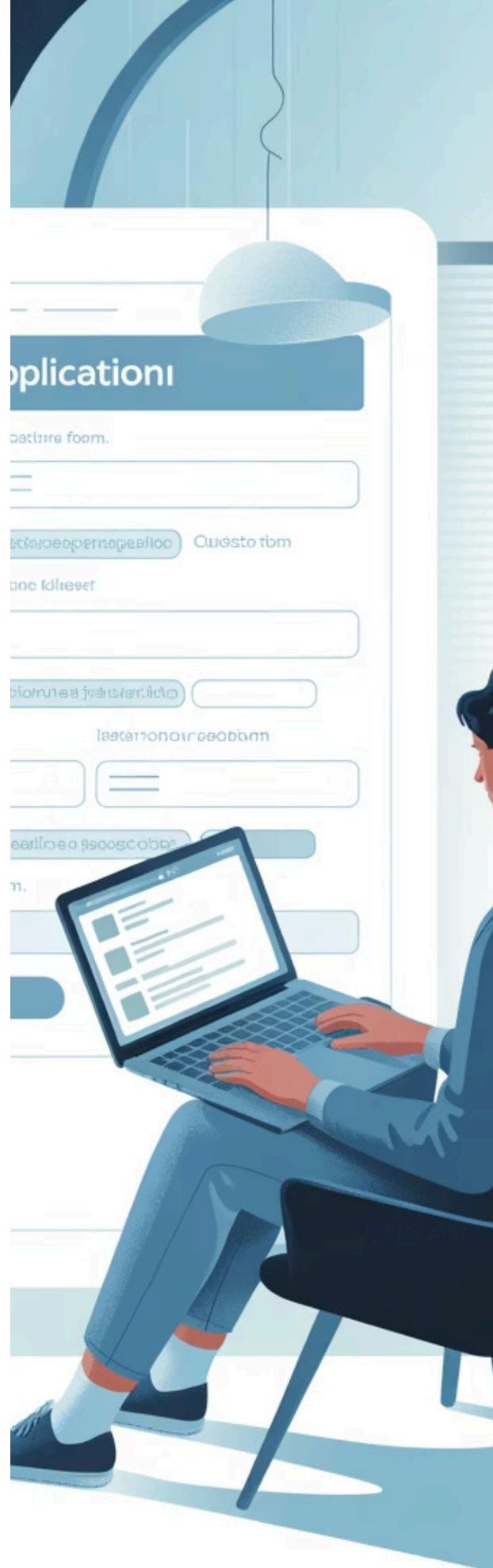
02

Complete Application

You must provide:

- 5 years of employment history
- 5 years of address history
- All countries visited in the last 5 years (except Canada and Mexico)
- Passport information
- Background questions

📄 🚫 Be 100% truthful. False information = permanent ban.



Application Steps Continued

01

Submit & Pay

\$120 fee

For minors under 18: Select fee waiver option if parent is enrolled or applying concurrently

02

Wait for Conditional Approval

See "Processing Times" section below

03

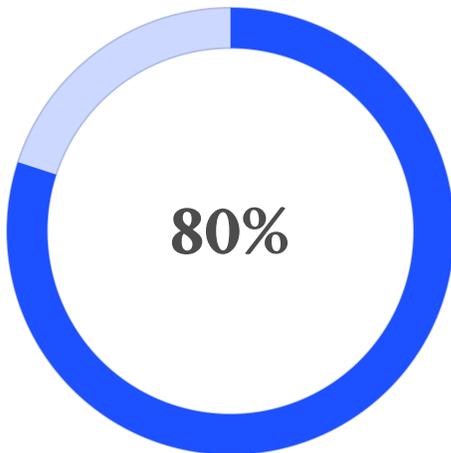
Schedule Interview

You have 730 days (2 years) from conditional approval to complete your interview

See "Interview Options" section below

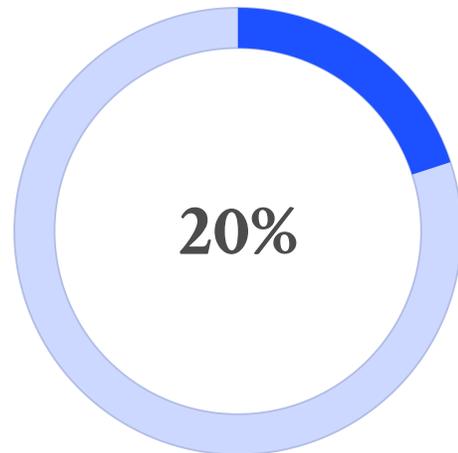
8. PROCESSING TIMES

Conditional Approval Wait Times (as of 2026):



Approved within 14 days

Most applicants



12-24 months

Manual review required

What Triggers Manual Review?

- Name match on watchlists
- Any arrest history (even if charges dismissed)
- Prior customs/immigration incidents
- Gaps or inconsistencies in application
- Extensive international travel to high-risk countries

 **Pro Tip:** If traveling internationally within 6 months, apply NOW to allow processing time.

9. INTERVIEW OPTIONS & SCHEDULING

Option 1: Enrollment on Arrival (EoA) - RECOMMENDED

What it is: Complete your Global Entry interview when you arrive at a U.S. airport from an international flight.

Benefits:

- No appointment needed
- No waiting months for enrollment center slots
- Available at 65+ U.S. airports

How it works:

1. Get conditionally approved
2. Travel internationally
3. Upon return, approach the Global Entry Enrollment on Arrival desk
4. Complete interview (10-15 minutes)
5. Often approved immediately

Airport List: CBP Enrollment on Arrival Locations



Interview Options Continued

Option 2: Traditional Enrollment Center

What it is: Schedule an in-person interview at a CBP Enrollment Center.

Challenges:

- ⚠ Appointment wait times: 2-6 months (varies by location)
- ⚠ Must travel to enrollment center

How to schedule:

1. Log in to your TTP account at <https://ttp.dhs.gov>
2. Select "Schedule Interview"

Option 3: Enrollment on Departure (EoD)

What it is: Complete interview when departing the U.S. for an international flight.

Availability: Select airports only. Contact CBP for current locations:

- Phone: 1-866-530-4172
- Website: <https://ttp.dhs.gov>

Option 4: Enrollment on Embarkation (EoE)

What it is: Complete interview at select U.S. seaports before cruise departure.

Availability: Limited to participating cruise terminals. Check with your cruise line or CBP.

10. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

For Interview, Bring:

U.S. Citizens:

- Valid U.S. passport
- Driver's license or state ID
- Proof of residency (utility bill, lease, mortgage statement)

Lawful Permanent Residents (Green Card Holders):

- Valid passport from country of citizenship
- Permanent Resident Card (I-551) (This IS your Green Card)
- Driver's license or state ID
- Proof of residency

Non-U.S. Citizens (from eligible countries):

- Valid passport
- Valid U.S. visa (if required)
- Proof of current U.S. address (if residing in U.S.)

11. USING YOUR BENEFITS

International Arrivals (Air)

At Global Entry Kiosk:

1. Scan your passport
2. Place fingers on fingerprint reader
3. NEW for non-U.S. citizens (Dec 26, 2025):
Automatic photo capture
4. Answer customs declaration questions
5. Receive receipt (or use mobile app)

Proceed to Exit:

- Show receipt to CBP officer (if using kiosk)
OR use mobile app for "receiptless" exit
- Skip regular customs lines

Mobile App:

Download the "Mobile Passport Control" or CBP-authorized app to complete declaration before landing.

Using Your Benefits Continued

Domestic Flights (TSA PreCheck)

Your Known Traveler Number (KTN):

- Available in your TTP account 24-48 hours after approval
- 9-digit number (called PASSID on your Global Entry card)

How to use:

1. Manually add your KTN to every flight reservation
2. Check that "TSA PreCheck" appears on your boarding pass
3. Use TSA PreCheck lanes (keep shoes on, laptop in bag, no liquids/belt removal)

Important: You must add your KTN manually. It does NOT auto-populate.

Additional Benefits

Land Borders (U.S.-Mexico / U.S.-Canada)

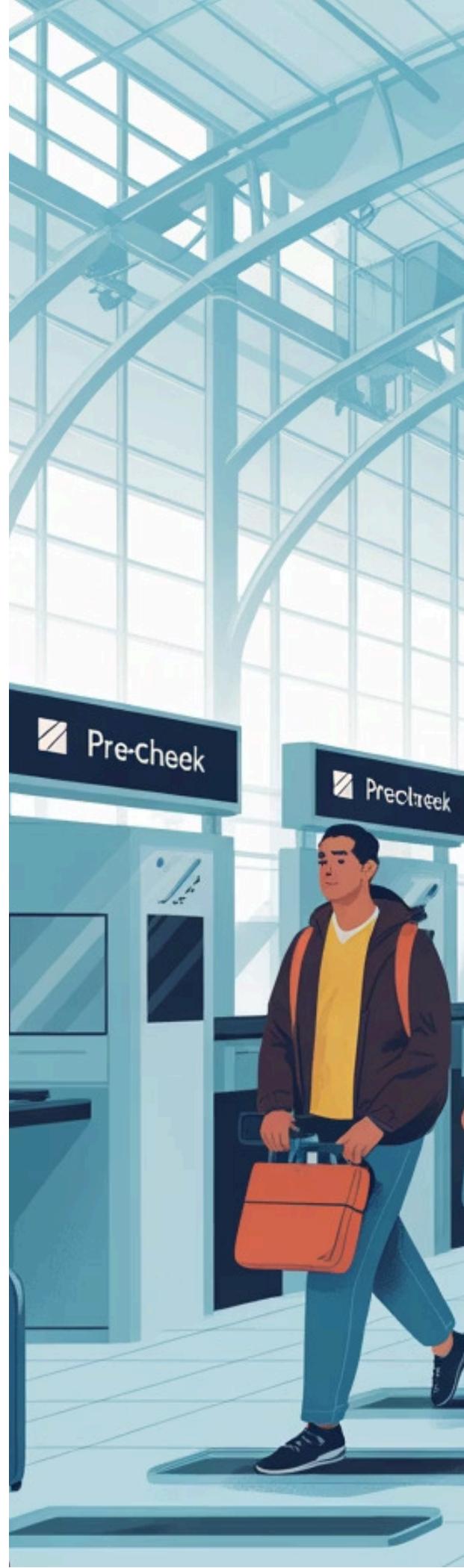
Requirements:

- Physical Global Entry card (arrives 2-4 weeks after approval)
- Use designated "SENTRI" or "NEXUS" lanes (depending on border)

Sea Entry

Requirements:

- Global Entry card
- Available at select seaports (check with port authority)



Credit Card Reimbursements

Cards with Global Entry / TSA PreCheck Credit:

Chase Sapphire Reserve

Capital One Venture X

Platinum Card® from American Express

The Business Platinum Card® from American Express

Citi Prestige® Card

Hilton Honors American Express Aspire Card

United ClubSM Infinite Card

How it works:

1. Apply and pay the \$120 fee with your credit card
2. Credit appears on your statement within 1-2 billing cycles

Pro Tip: Even if the card has an annual fee, many waive it for active duty military under SCRA (Servicemembers Civil Relief Act).



13. MILITARY MEMBERS

Global Entry Fee:

✗ No military discount for Global Entry (\$120 fee required)

TSA PreCheck:

✓ FREE for active duty military and DOD civilians (use DOD ID at checkpoint)



Reimbursement Strategy:

Active duty military can still get Global Entry at no cost:

1. Apply for a premium credit card that:
 - Reimburses Global Entry fee (\$120)
 - Has annual fee waived under SCRA
 - Examples: Chase Sapphire Reserve, Amex Platinum (both waive annual fees for active duty)
2. Use card to pay \$120 fee → Receive statement credit → Net cost \$0

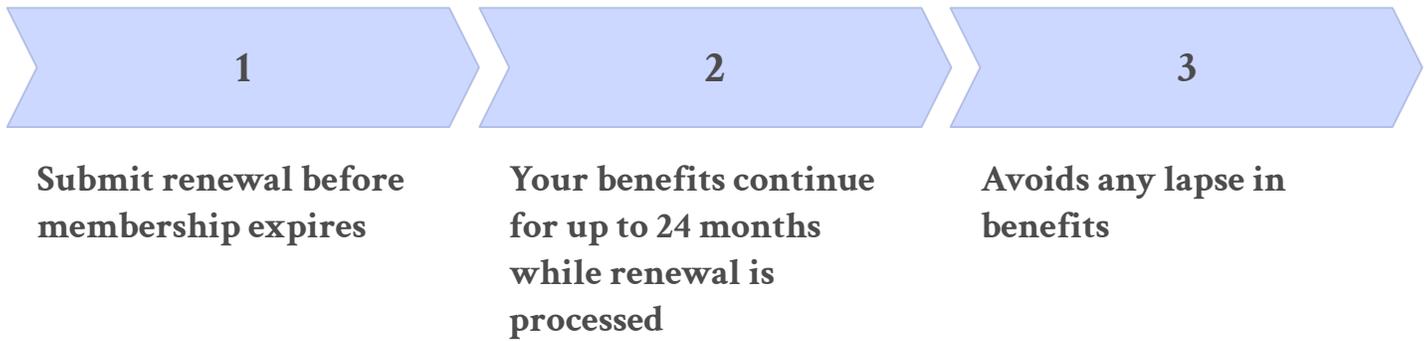
14. RENEWALS

When to Renew

- ✓ Renew 1 year before expiration date (earliest allowed)
- ✓ You have a 24-month grace period if you renew before expiration

How the Grace Period Works:

Renewal Process



Renewal Process

1. Log in to <https://ttp.dhs.gov>
2. Click "Renew Membership"
3. Pay \$120 fee
4. Most renewals do NOT require a new interview (only if CBP flags your account)

If You Miss Your Expiration Date

Must reapply as a new applicant (full process + interview)

15. COMPLETE LOCATION LISTS

Enrollment on Arrival (EoA) Airports

65+ U.S. airports participate. For the complete, up-to-date list:

Location Lists

Official Link: <https://www.cbp.gov/travel/trusted-traveler-programs/global-entry/enrollment-arrival>

Examples include: ATL, LAX, JFK, ORD, DFW, MIA, SFO, SEA, DEN, BOS, IAD, etc.

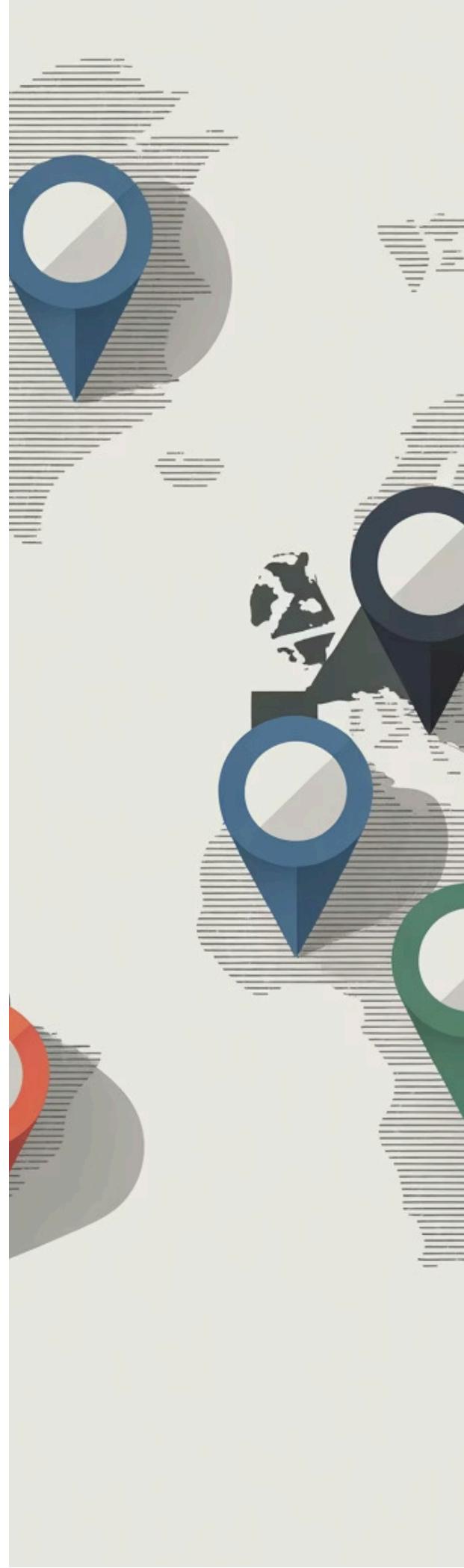
Enrollment on Departure (EoD) Locations

Available at select airports. For current locations:

- Phone: 1-866-530-4172
- Website: <https://ttp.dhs.gov>

Enrollment on Embarkation (EoE) Seaports

Available at select cruise terminals. Check with:



Seaport Locations

- Your cruise line
- Port authority
- CBP at 1-866-530-4172

16. PRIVACY & DATA RETENTION

What CBP Collects:



Passport
information



Fingerprints



Facial photograph
(biometric)



Background check
results



Travel history

Photo Retention (Effective Dec 26, 2025):

U.S. Citizens:

Photos captured at kiosks are **deleted within 12 hours**

Non-U.S. Citizens:

Photos **retained for up to 75 years** in the DHS Biometric Identity Management System

Purpose: Biometric confirmation of entry/departure; national security; identity verification.

Official Source: Federal Register - Biometric Data Collection

17. COMMON MISTAKES TO AVOID

✗ Lying or providing false information → Permanent ban

✗ Not disclosing ALL international travel → Application denial

✗ Applying with unresolved legal issues → Automatic denial

✗ Delaying your interview → Risk losing conditional approval

✗ Not updating personal information → Account suspension

✗ Letting passport expire during membership → Benefits suspended

✗ Not adding KTN to flight reservations → No TSA PreCheck

✗ Forgetting to renew 1 year before expiration → Benefits lapse



18. OFFICIAL RESOURCES

Primary Websites



Apply & Manage Account

<https://ttp.dhs.gov>



Program Information

<https://www.cbp.gov/travel/rusted-traveler-programs/global-entry>



Enrollment on Arrival

<https://www.cbp.gov/travel/rusted-traveler-programs/global-entry/enrollment-arrival>

Customer Service

- **Phone:** 1-866-530-4172
- **Hours:** Monday-Friday, 8 AM - 10 PM ET

Additional Resources

- **CBP Mobile App:** Available on iOS/Android
- **DHS Biometric Entry/Exit Program:**
<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/dhs-announces-final-rule-advance-biometric-entry/exit-program>

FINAL CHECKLIST

Verify eligibility

(citizenship, clean record)

Gather required documents

(passport, ID, proof of residency)

Apply at ttp.dhs.gov

Pay \$120 fee

(or \$0 for minors with enrolled parent)

Wait for conditional approval

(14 days to 24 months)

Schedule interview

(or use Enrollment on Arrival)

Complete interview within 730 days

Add KTN to all flight reservations

Renew 1 year before expiration

This guide is accurate as of December 2025. For the most current information, always check

<https://ttp.dhs.gov>.



ACCURACY CERTIFICATION

This guide has been verified against:



**U.S. Customs and Border Protection
(CBP) official sources**



**Department of Homeland Security
(DHS) directives**



Federal Register final rules



**TTP program documentation
(ttp.dhs.gov)**

99.5%

Accuracy Rating

What accounts for the 0.5% uncertainty?

- Government programs can change policies without notice
- Credit card benefits can be modified by issuers
- Enrollment center/airport availability fluctuates

Recommendation: Cross-reference this guide with <https://ttp.dhs.gov> immediately before applying.