Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative

Before you travel, learn the entry requirements of the foreign country you are traveling to.

Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative Passport Requirements			
Returning to the U.S. From	**Type of Travel**		**Document Required**
Any International Location		**Air** Commercial airplane, private airplane, etc.	U.S. Passport Book
Canada, Mexico, Bermuda or the Caribbean Region		**Land** Car, bus, train, by foot, etc.	U.S. Passport Book or Card
Canada, Mexico, Bermuda or the Caribbean Region		**Sea** Commercial cruise line, private boat, etc	U.S. Passport Book or Card
A U.S. Territory		**Air**, **Land** or **Sea**	Valid Photo ID

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security will allow certain groups of travelers to re-enter the United States without a U.S. passport, like members of the military and certain supervised groups of children. WHTI travel requirements for these groups and the general public can be found at www.GetYouHome.gov.

Watch our video about the Passport Card and the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative

The following summarizes information available on the Department of Homeland Security's website:

ABOUT WHTI

The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative is a result of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (IRTPA), requiring all travelers to present a passport or other document that denotes identity and citizenship when entering the United States.

The goal of WHTI is to strengthen U.S. border security while facilitating entry for U.S. citizens and legitimate foreign visitors by providing standardized documentation that enables the Department of Homeland Security to quickly and reliably identify a traveler.

Federal Regulations

Final Rule - Air Phase (PDF)

AILA InfoNet Doc. No. 06062962. (Posted 06/29/06)

Final Rule - Passport Card (PDF)
U.S. Land/Sea Document Requirements (PDF)
Exceptions and Special Circumstances

Other Relevant Links

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Applying for a U.S. Passport

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