



How to Expedite a Child's Passport



[u s - p a s s p o r t - s e r v i c e - g u i d e . c o m](https://www.us-passport-service-guide.com)



Key Minor Passport Facts:

- Minors aged 15 or younger have unique rules for getting a passport.
- Both parents or guardians must approve, in person or with legal documentation, that a child is to be issued a passport.
- The minor must be present at the time of application, regardless of the child's age.
- Passports for children under age 16 are only valid for 5 years.
- [A child's passport cannot be renewed](#) by mail. You must apply in person for a new passport.

NOTE: This guide contains clickable links to additional information and helpful content.

Official Requirements

Documents Needed at Passport Application Appointment:

- [Form DS-11](#)**: Filled out online or offline (do not sign until instructed at your application appointment)
- [Passport Photo](#)**: Must be recent, 2x2 inches, and meet official requirements
- [Proof of U.S. Citizenship](#)**: Original birth certificate or [other acceptable documents](#) and a photocopy to submit
- [Proof of Parental Relationship](#)**: Birth certificate, adoption decree, or other accepted documentation
- [Photo IDs for Parents/Guardians](#)**: Valid, government-issued ID and a photocopy to submit
- [Payment](#)**: Check or money order only



Application Process

Parental Approval:

- **Both Parents or Guardians Present:** Required at the application appointment
- **One Parent or Guardian Absent:** Notarized consent [form DS-3053](#) or proof of sole legal custody is required.

Submission:

- **Must be In-Person:** Parents and child must apply at a [passport acceptance facility](#) with all supporting documents in hand. Minor passport applications cannot be submitted by mail.



Registered Passport Expeditors: [Top courier services](#) can be used to get a child's passport faster than 2 weeks, but the child and parents must still appear and sign documents, in person, before a passport acceptance agent.

Application Process

Processing Times:

- **Routine Processing:** 6-8 weeks
- **Expedited:** 2-3 weeks
- **Urgent or Emergency:** 14 days or less
 - *must [apply at a regional passport agency](#) with proof of urgent travel need*

Costs:

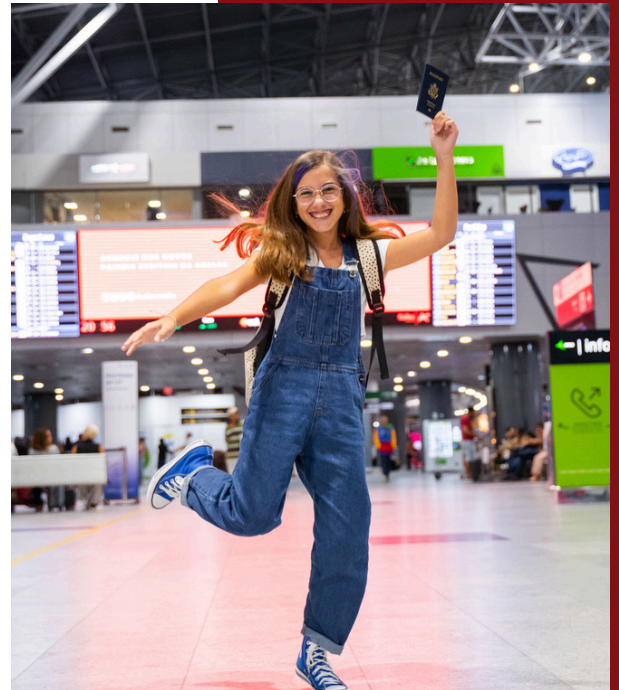
- **Passport Book:** \$135
- **Passport Card:** \$50
- **Both Book and Card:** \$150
- **Expedited Processing:** Additional \$60 fee
- **1-2 Day Delivery of New Passport:** \$19.53



Expedited Options

When to Expedite:

- **Urgent Travel:** If traveling within 14 days.
- **[Emergency Situations:](#)** For sudden, health-related, or life-or-death, travel needs.
- **Peace of Mind:** To ensure timely receipt before travel.



Expedited Services:

1. [Passport Acceptance Facility:](#)

- Takes 2-3 weeks with an additional \$60 fee.
- [Appointments](#) are highly recommended.

2. [Regional Passport Agency:](#)

- For travel within 14 days.
- Requires an appointment; processing as fast as 8 business days.

3. [Registered Expediter:](#)

- Passport within 2 weeks or 1 day.
- The child and parents must still appear and sign documents, in person, before a passport acceptance agent.

Tracking:

- **Online:** Use the official [passport tracking system](#).
- **Notifications:** Opt for email and phone updates.
- **Customer Service:** Contact the [National Passport Information Center](#).

For detailed instructions and additional resources, visit our [Child Passport Information](#) and [Expedited Passports for Minors](#) pages.