



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PASSPORT DELAYS

Plan Ahead

Processing times are at an all-time high and there are **1.5 to 2 million** applications in the **backlog**



Then: Routine service 6 to 8 weeks, expedited service 2 to 3 weeks



Now: Routine service up to **18 weeks** from the day an application is submitted, expedited service up to **12 weeks**

Then: Congressional offices could submit a letter to the State Department to request an expedited service



Now: The State Department is only prioritizing congressional requests for life or death scenarios

Beware of scam passport appointments

There has been an increase in falsified appointment bookings through third parties



- The State Department is not affiliated with any third-party booking services & does not require a fee just for booking an appointment
- The State Department **does not recommend** booking through a third party as they might not be able to accommodate these kinds of appointments

Tips

Courtesy of the State Department



Renew by mail if eligible.

You are eligible to renew by mail if *all* of the following are true:

- You have your passport in your possession to submit with your application
- It's undamaged
- Was issued when you were 16 or older, within the last 15 years, and in your current name

Send your application via **trackable mail**

- It may take up to 6 weeks from the day you submit your application until your status is "In Process."
- Send your application to us via trackable mail, so you can track your application before it enters the system

Apply at least **6 months** before planned travel

Use **online self-service** tools

Questions?

If you have questions, please reach out to my office



Note: Nationwide delays are also affecting response times and someone on staff will get back to you with help ASAP!

- 🌐 steel.house.gov/services/help-federal-agency
- 📞 714.960.6483
- ✉️ RepSteel@mail.house.gov