

# ASTA's Guide to PreCheck & Global Entry

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## Trusted Traveler

Trusted Traveler is the umbrella under which several risk-based security programs operate. The two programs that are of most interest to travel agency customers are the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) PreCheck program and the Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Global Entry program. TSA's PreCheck program is designed to expedite the flow of "trusted" and low-risk travelers through airport security, while CBP's Global Entry program is designed to expedite "trusted" travelers through customs and immigrations upon entering the United States. Both programs are expected to expand dramatically in 2012. And as they do, travelers will likely turn to their trusted travel advisor for help in

understanding how these programs work. It is therefore important that travel agents have a solid understanding of these programs and the benefits they may provide their customers.



## TSA PreCheck

TSA PreCheck is TSA's expedited airport security screening program. For travelers, PreCheck represents a return to less intrusive security checks, and shorter security processing times. For TSA, PreCheck represents the opportunity for TSA to focus its resources on higher-risk and unknown passengers, rather than treating all passengers the same. Travelers approved by TSA to participate in PreCheck benefit by being directed to a special PreCheck security screening lane that does not require the traveler to remove his/her shoes; 3-1-1 compliant bag; light jacket; belt; and, laptop.

TSA has created two pathways for travelers to enjoy the benefits of PreCheck. The first option requires that the traveler receive an invitation from a participating airline. Based on TSA criteria, participating airlines are inviting some of their frequent flyers to opt-in to the PreCheck program through the airline's system. Once the passenger opts-in to the program and is accepted by TSA as a participant, the traveler's frequent flyer number is the tracking number that is used by TSA to identify PreCheck eligibility when the boarding pass is requested. Since this is an airline-sponsored offer and is tied to the frequent flyer number of a single airline, the traveler only benefits when traveling on the sponsoring airline. The privilege does not transfer when traveling on other airlines.

The second pathway for participating in PreCheck piggybacks onto CBP's Trusted Traveler programs. The most popular Trusted Traveler program for frequent air travelers is CBP's Global Entry program, which is explained on the next page. Because of the rigorous vetting process required of CBP's Trusted Traveler programs, TSA has extended its PreCheck benefits to U.S. citizens that participate in one of these programs. The benefit for using a CBP Trusted Traveler number to participate in PreCheck is that the traveler will have access to PreCheck when traveling on all participating airlines, rather than with a single airline.

### **Important points for travel agents to know about the PreCheck program:**

- If the traveler participates in PreCheck at the invitation of an airline, there is nothing for the travel agent to do except to ensure that the traveler's frequent flyer number is in the Passenger Name Record (PNR).
- If the traveler is a CBP Trusted Traveler, the travel agent should ensure that the traveler's Known Traveler Number is in the PNR in the Known Traveler Number Field. The travel agent should also ensure that the number is stored in the traveler's profile so that it moves into the PNR when making future reservations. Travel agents should consult with their Global Distribution System (GDS) for the exact format. The format may be found by performing a GDS search using the key words "Secure Flight" or "Known Traveler Number."
- The inclusion of the Trusted Traveler number or the frequent flyer number in the Passenger Name Record (PNR) does not guarantee PreCheck benefits with every trip. The traveler may be randomly denied PreCheck benefits. TSA's risk-based security process incorporates "random and unpredictable" security measures so that no individual will be guaranteed expedited screening in order for TSA to retain a certain element of randomness.
- The boarding pass, electronic or paper, will not contain any visible indication of the traveler's PreCheck status. This information will be imbedded in the barcode found on the boarding pass.
- ID screening lane configurations may vary by airport due to space limitations. Some airports may offer a dedicated PreCheck lane, while others may require all travelers to wait in the TSA ID screening lane upon arrival. Once the ID screener verifies the traveler's ID and reads the barcode identifying the traveler as PreCheck approved, will the traveler be directed to the PreCheck security-screening lane.
- TSA PreCheck is limited to U.S. citizens.

## CBP Global Entry

Global Entry is CBP's Trusted Traveler program that allows expedited customs and immigration clearance for pre-approved, low-risk travelers upon arrival into the United States (U.S.). The program allows participants to enter the U.S. using automated kiosks that are located at select airports.

Global Entry participants do not have to complete the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, I-94, form. More importantly, upon arrival in the participants can bypass (often long) Immigration and Customs lines and proceed directly to a Global Entry kiosk, present their machine-readable passport or U.S. permanent resident card, place their fingertips on the scanner for fingerprint verification, and make a customs declaration. The entire process typically takes no more than a minute or two. Once completed, the kiosk issues the traveler a transaction receipt and directs the traveler to baggage claim and the exit.

Global Entry is open to U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents, Dutch citizens, and Mexican nationals. Canadian citizens and residents may obtain Global Entry benefits through membership in the NEXUS program. The NEXUS program is the Trusted Traveler program that is designed for trans-border land travel between the U.S. and Canada.

While Global Entry's goal is to speed travelers through the Customs and Immigration process, members may randomly be selected for further examination when entering the United States.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Customs Declaration  
CBP Form 6059B (01-04)

Each arriving traveler or responsible family member must provide this information only. ONE custom declaration per family is required.

- Family Name
- Birth date: Day, Month, Year
- Number of Family members traveling with you
- (a) U.S. Street Address (omit municipalities)
- (b) City
- Passport issued by (country)
- Passport number
- Country of Residence
- Countries visited on this trip prior to U.S. arrival
- Airline/Flight No. or Vessel No.
- The primary purpose of this trip is:
  - (a) Business, Yes/No
  - (b) Pleasure, Yes/No
  - (c) Other, Yes/No
- I am (We are) bringing:
  - (a) Firearms, Yes/No
  - (b) Alcohol, Yes/No
  - (c) Tobacco, Yes/No
  - (d) Mail or baggage, Yes/No
- I have (We have) brought with me:
  - (a) Merchandise, Yes/No
  - (b) Mail or baggage, Yes/No
- I have (We have) brought with me:
  - (a) Merchandise, Yes/No
  - (b) Mail or baggage, Yes/No
- Residents: Total value of all goods, including commercial merchandise, purchased or acquired abroad, including gifts for members of the household, not means mailed to the U.S. and airfare bringing to the U.S. \$

Visitors: Total value of all articles that will remain in the U.S., including commercial merchandise, \$

Read the instructions on the back of this form. Space is provided to list all the items.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM AND HAVE MADE A TRUTHFUL DECLARATION.

Signature of the Shipper Date (day/month/year)

CBP Form 6059B (01-04)

## Becoming a “Trusted Traveler”

### *How Travelers Can Gain Access to PreCheck and Global Entry Benefits*

The easiest path to enjoying the benefits of both PreCheck and Global Entry requires that the traveler become a CBP Trusted Traveler, which requires that the applicant undergo a rigorous background check, pay a \$100 non-refundable application fee and be interviewed in-person. For some travelers, the benefits may be worth this effort, especially since it is valid for five years.

### Steps for the traveler to follow:

- Apply online at <https://goes-app.cbp.dhs.gov/main/goes> at the government's Global Online Enrollment System (GOES) website and pay the \$100 non-refundable application fee. By selecting and applying for “**Global Entry**,” the user will be eligible for both Global Entry and PreCheck benefits. Once the application is reviewed and conditionally approved (this may take a few weeks), the traveler will receive a message instructing him/her to schedule an interview at one of the Global Entry Enrollment Centers.

- Schedule an interview. Applicants are required to bring their valid passport and one other form of identification, such as a driver's license or ID card to the interview.
- Complete the interview. A U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer will ask the applicant questions, take a photo, and collect biometric information (e.g., fingerprint scan).
- Provide the Known Traveler Number to your travel agent so he/she can update your travel profile to enjoy the benefits of PreCheck when applicable.

## Resources:

- ✔ **TSA PreCheck:** How it works, including a current list of participating airlines and airports  
[http://www.tsa.gov/what\\_we\\_do/escreening.shtm](http://www.tsa.gov/what_we_do/escreening.shtm)
- ✔ **CBP Global Entry:** How it works, including a current list of participating airports  
<http://www.globalentry.gov/>
- ✔ **Global Online Enrollment System (GOES)** online Global Entry application  
<https://goes-app.cbp.dhs.gov/main/goes>

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