



April 14, 2025

ADVISORY NOTICE

REAL ID Act Enforcement Begins May 7, 2025 – Important Travel Advisory

The requirements of the REAL ID Act of 2005 will be enforced in American Samoa beginning May 7, 2025. In order to comply with this Federal Law, Certificates of Identity and old drivers licenses issued by the American Samoa Government will no longer be accepted by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). For a comprehensive list of acceptable forms of identification, you may find them attached hereto, and online at:

www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification.


To reiterate, TSA will not accept ASG-issued Certificates of Identity and old drivers licenses as REAL ID compliant identification for purpose of travel. Additionally, acceptable identification will also be required for accessing federal facilities and nuclear powerplants. For purposes of accessing federal facilities, you should consult the policy of the agency operating the facility.


I am informed by Homeland Security Secretary Noem that the REAL ID adoption rate for our Territory is 16 percent, which is low. Because US Passports have been part of our usual travel history in the Territory, I am hopeful that most of us have our passports. However, if you do not have your US Passport or a REAL ID card issued by ASG or any other state, you are advised to apply for either of them as soon as possible in light of this advisory. Please check the attachment and/or the above link to verify if you possess any REAL ID compliant identification.

With Flag Day upon us, this is a busy season for travel to and from the Territory. Please take time to ensure that you have the documents needed for a safe and enjoyable visit, and please inform your families and friends who will be visiting as well.

Respectfully,
Pulaali'i Nikolao Pula
Governor of American Samoa

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Acceptable Identification at the TSA Checkpoint

Adult passengers 18 and older must show valid identification at the airport checkpoint in order to travel.

- Driver's licenses or other state photo identity cards issued by Department of Motor Vehicles (or equivalent)
 - [Beginning May 7, 2025, if you plan to use your state-issued ID or license to fly within the U.S., make sure it is REAL ID compliant.](#) If you are not sure if your ID complies with REAL ID, check with your state department of motor vehicles.
- State-issued Enhanced Driver's License
- [U.S. passport](#)
- [U.S. passport card](#)
- DHS trusted traveler cards (Global Entry, NEXUS, SENTRI, FAST)
- U.S. Department of Defense ID, including IDs issued to dependents
- Permanent resident card
- Border crossing card
- An acceptable photo ID issued by a [federally recognized](#) Tribal Nation/Indian Tribe, including Enhanced Tribal Cards (ETCs).
- HSPD-12 PIV card
- Foreign government-issued passport
- Canadian provincial driver's license or Indian and Northern Affairs Canada card
- Transportation worker identification credential
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Employment Authorization Card (I-766)
- U.S. Merchant Mariner Credential
- Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC)

In coordination with its DHS counterparts, TSA has identified acceptable alternate identification for use in special circumstances at the checkpoint.

A weapon permit is not an acceptable form of identification. A temporary driver's license is not an acceptable form of identification.

REAL ID

[Beginning May 7, 2025, if you plan to use your state-issued ID or license to fly within the U.S., make sure it is REAL ID compliant.](#) If you are not sure if your ID complies with REAL ID, check with your state department of motor vehicles. [Learn more about flying with a REAL ID.](#)

Expired ID

TSA currently accepts expired ID up to a year after expiration, for the above listed forms of identification. DHS has extended the REAL ID enforcement deadline to May 7, 2025. Learn more about REAL ID on [TSA's REAL ID](#) webpage.

Children

TSA does not require children under 18 to provide identification when traveling within the United States. Contact the airline for questions regarding specific ID requirements for travelers under 18.

Don't Have Your Acceptable ID?

In the event you arrive at the airport without acceptable identification (whether lost, stolen, or otherwise), you may still be allowed to fly.

The TSA officer may ask you to complete an identity verification process which includes collecting information such as your name and current address to confirm your identity. If your identity is confirmed, you will be allowed to enter the screening checkpoint, where you may be subject to additional screening.

You will not be allowed to enter the security checkpoint if you choose to not provide acceptable identification, you decline to cooperate with the identity verification process, or your identity cannot be confirmed.

TSA recommends individuals without acceptable identification arrive at least three hours in advance of their flight time.

Names With Suffixes

TSA accepts variations on suffixes on boarding passes and ID. Suffixes are not required on boarding passes. If there is a suffix on the boarding pass, and there is not one on the ID or vice versa, that is considered an acceptable variation.

If your identity cannot be verified, you will not be allowed to enter the screening checkpoint.