

# Skip the Line With the TSA Precheck Program

## Podcast Transcript

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It's been said that life is about the journey, not the destination. How much of your journey is spent standing in line at the airport? Active duty service members, National Guard and reserves may be eligible for expedited screening, thanks to the Transportation Security Administration's TSA Precheck program that could reduce the time you spend waiting at the airport.

The TSA Precheck program is available at more than 115 airports around the country. To determine whether the airport nearest you is a participant, visit <http://www.tsa.gov>, select the TSA Precheck tab, and click the Airlines and Airports box. At any one of these airports, you can save time without having to remove your shoes, the 3-1-1 compliant bag from your carry-on, your laptop from its bag, light outerwear or your belt.

Service members are not required to be in uniform to be eligible, and military family members under the age of 12 can take advantage of expedited screening too. It's important to remember as you plan your arrival to the airport, though, that expedited boarding isn't guaranteed. These security screenings are in place to keep you safe and prevent terrorist attacks, so you or a member of your family may still be subject to a random screening. Whenever possible, an early arrival is still be your best bet, but you can spend any extra time relaxing near your gate instead of watching the second hand on your watch quickly tick-tock as you stand still in line.

Are you ready to skip the line next time you travel? Here's how:

1. Use the Defense Travel System for official travel arrangements. Leisure travel arrangements can be made through travel websites or directly through the airlines.
2. Enter your DoD ID number – this is found on the back of your Common Access Card – when prompted for your known traveler number. You can save this number in your DTS profile if using the Defense Travel System, so that you never miss an opportunity for TSA Precheck on official travel.
3. Provide your commercial travel agent with the same DoD ID number when verifying your personal information, like your full name, birthdate and gender. Your travel agent isn't required to ask for your known traveler number, so be sure to offer it.

So, if you've ever seen that little TSA sign at the fork in the road separating a long, winding security line from an intriguing shortcut and wondered if you could bypass the crowd, you know now that you can!

If you've provided your DoD ID number when you booked your ticket, your TSA Precheck eligibility should be embedded in your boarding pass barcode. When your boarding pass is scanned in the Precheck lane, it will automatically verify that you are in the right place.

If your airline doesn't indicate Precheck eligibility on boarding passes, but you are sure you provided your DoD ID number as your known traveler number when you booked your flight, you can still proceed to the TSA Precheck lane with confidence and verify your eligibility.

Whether your next trip is official business or just a fun getaway, remove a piece of stress from your journey by skipping the line. To learn more about the TSA Precheck program or to review the latest travel safety information, visit <http://www.tsa.gov>. Enjoy your flight!

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