HOW PASSPORTS ARE MADE

Did you know? The U.S. Department of State issues more than 20 million passports each year!

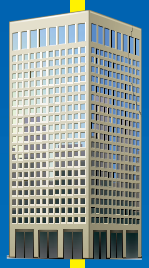
START

You submit a passport application by mail or at a passport acceptance facility such as a library or post office.

An initial processing facility confirms your application is complete and processes payment.

Next, your application is routed to one of our 29 passport agencies.

We will send it to the agency where it can receive the quickest attention—which may not be the closest facility to you.



CONTACT THE NATIONAL PASSPORT INFORMATION CENTER
To make an appointment call 1-877-487-2778

WHAT HAPPENS IN AN EMERGENCY?
Passport agencies are open to customers by appointment for travel emergencies.

Our employees enter your data, scan your photo, and verify the information on the application matches your documents.

A passport adjudicator, an expert on passport and citizenship law, will determine whether your passport is ready to approve. If more information is needed, we will send you a letter.

Once approved, the passport is likely printed at one of two mega-printing facilities and mailed to the address provided on the application.

Sign your new passport and store it in a safe place until your next trip.

END

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