



Delta Airlines

Delta Loyalty Program

Delta Loyalty Program Explained: Benefits, Miles & Status Levels

The Delta loyalty program, known as SkyMiles, is designed to reward travelers for flying with Delta and participating airline partners, as well as for eligible everyday activities. Members can earn miles that can be used for eligible travel and other rewards, while frequent travelers can work toward Medallion Status for additional benefits.

SkyMiles has two main components: redeemable miles and Medallion Qualification Dollars (MQDs). Miles can be used for rewards, while MQDs determine eligibility for elite Medallion tiers.



What Is Delta SkyMiles?

Delta SkyMiles is Delta Air Lines' frequent-flyer and loyalty program. Membership is available to eligible travelers, and members can earn miles through qualifying Delta flights and a wide range of partners.

Delta also provides opportunities to earn through activities such as hotels, dining, rideshares, shopping, and eligible credit-card spending. This means members can potentially build their mileage balance even when they are not flying.

The program is particularly useful for travelers who regularly fly Delta or its partner airlines.



How Do You Earn Delta SkyMiles?

There are several ways to earn SkyMiles. The primary method is taking qualifying flights with Delta. Members can also earn through eligible partner airlines and participating businesses.

According to Delta's current earning structure, general SkyMiles members earn 5 miles per dollar on qualifying Delta-marketed flights in Classic or Refundable experiences, while eligible Extra experiences can earn 7 miles per dollar. Delta Main Basic experiences do not earn SkyMiles.

Mileage earnings are generally based on the eligible ticket price rather than government-imposed taxes and fees.

Earning Miles Through Everyday Activities



The Delta loyalty program extends beyond air travel. Members can earn miles through participating partners in areas such as hotels, dining, transportation, shopping, and other everyday services.

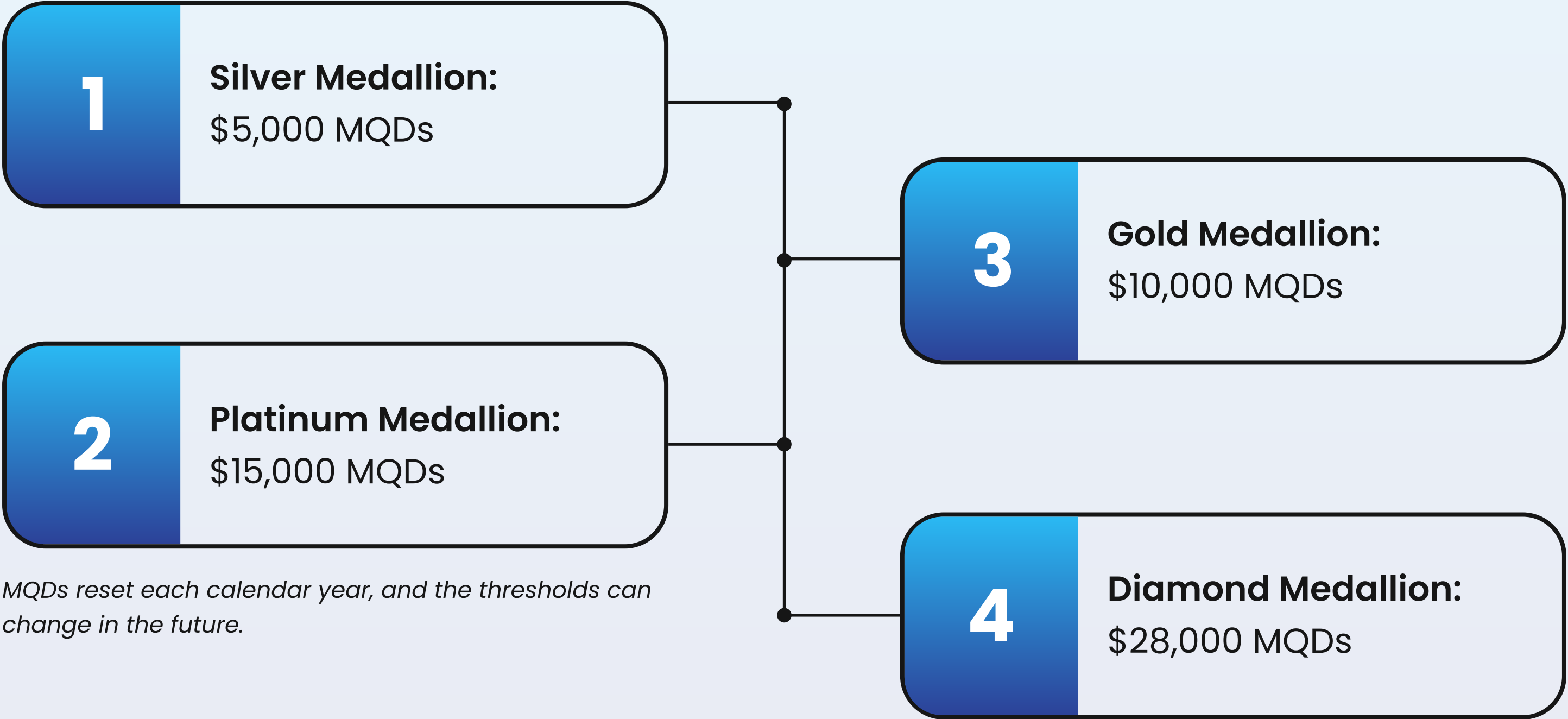
Delta also offers co-branded American Express cards that can provide opportunities to earn SkyMiles and, for certain eligible cards, MQDs toward Medallion Status.

Using partners strategically can help frequent travelers build their balances without relying exclusively on flights. However, members should always check the current terms of each offer because earning rates and eligibility can change.

What Are Medallion Qualification Dollars?

MQDs are the primary metric Delta uses to determine Medallion Status. Unlike redeemable SkyMiles, MQDs cannot be used to purchase award flights.

For the 2027 Medallion Status year, Delta lists the following MQD thresholds based on qualifying activity during calendar year 2026:



MQDs reset each calendar year, and the thresholds can change in the future.

Silver Medallion Status

Silver Medallion is the entry-level elite tier in Delta's Medallion program. It provides additional travel benefits compared with general SkyMiles membership.

Delta currently states that Silver Medallion members earn 7 miles per dollar on qualifying flights, compared with 5 miles per dollar for general members.

Silver members can earn more miles on qualifying Delta flights and receive access to eligible complimentary upgrade opportunities and other travel benefits.

For travelers who fly Delta regularly, Silver status can provide useful benefits without requiring the highest level of annual spending.

Gold Medallion Status

Gold Medallion offers a higher level of recognition and travel benefits. Members currently earn 8 miles per dollar on qualifying flights.

Gold members can receive complimentary upgrade opportunities, Sky Priority services, waived eligible same-day confirmed fees, and other benefits. Delta also provides eligible Gold members and companions with select upgrade opportunities.

Gold Medallion can be particularly valuable for travelers who fly frequently and want a smoother airport and onboard experience.

Platinum Medallion Status

Platinum Medallion is the second-highest standard Medallion tier. Members currently earn 9 miles per dollar on qualifying flights. Platinum members receive enhanced upgrade opportunities, airport benefits, and access to customizable Choice Benefits. Delta describes Choice Benefits as options that allow eligible Platinum and Diamond members to select additional rewards based on their preferences. This tier can be especially attractive to frequent travelers who value premium travel experiences and flexibility.



Diamond Medallion Status

Diamond Medallion is Delta's highest standard Medallion tier. Members currently earn 11 miles per dollar on qualifying flights.

Diamond members receive some of Delta's most extensive loyalty benefits, including enhanced upgrade opportunities, Choice Benefits, Sky Priority services, waived eligible fees, and additional partner benefits.