

Global Entry and TSA PreCheck: Benefits, Costs & Eligibility

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IS GLOBAL ENTRY AND TSA PRECHECK

Everything You Need to Know for
a Faster, Smoother Airport Experience

- GLOBAL ENTRY®**
Expedited clearance for international travelers
- TSA Pre✓®**
Faster security screening at U.S. airports

GLOBAL ENTRY®
TRUSTED TRAVELER NETWORK

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Airport security and international customs can take valuable time, especially during busy travel periods. Programs such as **Global Entry and TSA PreCheck** are designed to make certain parts of the airport experience faster and more convenient for eligible travelers. Although both programs are part of the U.S. Trusted Traveler system, they serve different purposes.

Understanding their benefits, costs, and eligibility requirements can help you decide which program best fits your travel habits.

What Is Global Entry?

Global Entry is a U.S. Customs and Border Protection program for pre-approved travelers who frequently enter the United States from international destinations. Approved members can use dedicated Global Entry processing at participating U.S. airports, helping them complete the arrival process more efficiently.

Global Entry membership currently has a \$100 non-refundable application fee and is generally valid for five years after approval. Applicants must complete an application, receive conditional approval, and attend an interview where eligibility and identity information are verified.

What Is TSA PreCheck?

TSA PreCheck focuses on airport security screening before your flight. Eligible travelers can use dedicated PreCheck lanes at participating airports and airlines. Depending on the circumstances, members may be allowed to keep shoes, belts, and light outerwear on and leave laptops and compliant liquids in their carry-on bags. Travelers can still be selected for unpredictable additional screening.

The application cost for TSA PreCheck can vary depending on the enrollment provider and whether you are applying or renewing. Because fees can change, travelers should check the current TSA information before submitting an application.

Global Entry and TSA PreCheck Benefits

One of the biggest advantages of [Global Entry vs TSA PreCheck](#) is the time they can potentially save during travel.

Global Entry is particularly useful for people who frequently travel internationally. Instead of going through the standard arrival process every time, approved members can use designated expedited processing at participating locations.

TSA PreCheck, meanwhile, can make the departure experience easier. Shorter dedicated screening lines and simplified security procedures can reduce the amount of time spent preparing for security.

There is also an important connection between the programs. Eligible Global Entry members can receive TSA PreCheck benefits when they provide their appropriate Known Traveler Number to participating airlines.

Who Is Eligible?

Eligibility requirements differ between the two programs.

Global Entry is available to U.S. citizens, U.S. lawful permanent residents, and citizens of certain participating countries, subject to program requirements and government vetting. Applicants may be denied for reasons such as certain criminal convictions, customs or immigration violations, false information, or an ongoing law-enforcement investigation.

TSA PreCheck eligibility depends on meeting TSA's requirements and successfully completing the required background-check and enrollment process. Applicants should review the current eligibility rules before applying.

Which Program Should You Choose?

If you mainly take domestic flights, TSA PreCheck may be the more relevant option because its primary benefit is faster airport security screening.

If you regularly travel internationally and want expedited processing when returning to the United States, Global Entry may provide greater value. For frequent international travelers who are eligible, having Global Entry can also provide access to TSA PreCheck benefits when properly enrolled with a participating airline.

Final Thoughts

Global Entry and TSA PreCheck can make air travel more convenient by reducing time spent at security and, in the case of Global Entry, certain U.S. international arrival procedures. Global Entry currently costs \$100 for the application and provides five years of membership after approval, while TSA PreCheck fees vary by enrollment provider and can change over time.

Before applying, review the latest official eligibility requirements, fees, participating airports, and enrollment information. Choosing the right program ultimately depends on how often you fly, whether you travel internationally, and which part of the airport experience you want to make easier.