

Disability Branch, Office of Civil Rights & Liberties, Ombudsman, and Traveler Engagement

## **Mobility Aids**

### TSA Pre ✓ ™ Standard Screening Travelers eligible for TSA Pre ✓ ™ will: Travelers not eligible for TSA Pre ✓ ™ will: Present your boarding pass and government-issued Present your boarding pass and government-issued ID to the Travel Document Checker. ID to the Travel Document Checker. Travel Document Checker will scan your boarding pass Proceed to the standard screening lanes. barcode. Proceed to the TSA Pre ✓ <sup>™</sup> lane. At the beginning of screening: At the beginning of screening: o If you feel your screening will be affected by your disability or o If you feel your screening will be affected by your disability or medical condition you may want to provide the Transportation medical condition you may want to provide the Transportation Security Officer information about the disability or medical Security Officer information about the disability or medical condition. condition. Inform the TSO of any disability or medical condition and Inform the TSO of any disability or medical condition and mobility aids or devices such as a walker, cane, crutches, mobility aids or devices such as a walker, cane, crutches, wheelchair, or scooter. wheelchair, or scooter. Oversized medically necessary liquids should be removed.







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#### During the screening process:

- Generally, passengers experience shorter lines, shorter waiting times, and a faster security screening process.
- A pat-down may be conducted, and medically-necessary liquids must be screened.

#### No removal of:

- o Belt
- Shoes
- Light Outerwear/jacket
- o 3-1-1 compliant bag
- Laptop from carry-on

Disability and medical devices or equipment may undergo additional screening.

#### During the screening process:

- Lines are longer depending on the date and time of travel, taking into consideration weekends and holidays, the waiting times may be longer, and the security screening process generally takes longer.
- A pat-down may be conducted, and medically-necessary liquids must be screened.
- Eligible travelers may request to access the checkpoint through lanes reserved for families and/or travelers with disabilities.

#### Removal of:

- Belt
- Shoes
- Light outerwear/jacket
- Medically necessary liquids
- Laptop from carry-on

Disability and medical devices or equipment may undergo additional screening.







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## WHAT TO KNOW

#### TSA Cares:

- TSA Cares is a toll-free helpline (1-855-787-2227), which is available from 8 am to 11 pm Monday through Friday and 9 am to 8 pm weekends and holidays for passengers with disabilities to get the latest information on screening. Passengers who are deaf or hard of hearing may use Federal Relay 711.
- TSA Cares also can prepare airports to expect a traveler's arrival, and facilitate a positive screening experience. It is preferred that the passenger contact TSA Cares 72 hours in advance in advance of arriving at the airport (and earlier, if traveling on the weekend or holidays), to allow enough time for TSA Cares to work with the airport and/or arrange for a Passenger Support Specialist to assist the traveler at the airport.
- More information is available at TSA.gov.

### • Passenger Support Specialists:

- o Travelers may request the assistance of a Passenger Support Specialist (PSS) through TSA Cares, or at the airport.
- The PSS is a specially-trained staff member who provides travelers with disabilities and medical conditions on-the-spot assistance at security checkpoints.
- o For more information about securing a PSS for your travel, go to TSA.gov.







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### • Planning your trip:

- Screening of medically-necessary liquids and medical devices can take extra time, so early arrival at the airport will help.
- o Providing information about a disability or medical condition to the Transportation Security Officer (TSO) before screening can make a traveler's checkpoint experience easier. This can include information about medically necessary liquids, equipment, or devices, or the location of sensitive areas. Travelers can provide this information to the TSO verbally, or non-verbally through use of TSA's Notification Card.
- The Notification Card is a basic, non-verbal way for a traveler to communicate their disability or medical condition to TSOs. However,
   the Notification Card DOES NOT exempt travelers from screening. To download a Notification Card, go to TSA.gov.
- The 3-1-1 rule, where each traveler is allowed to have a 3.4 ounce (100ml) bottle or less (by volume); 1 quart-sized, clear, plastic, zip-top bag; and 1 bag does not apply to medically necessary liquids for travelers with disabilities and medical conditions. However, you will need to declare medically-necessary liquids for inspection at the checkpoint, and officers may need to conduct additional screening of these items.

### • Advanced Imaging Technology:

- Travelers are eligible to be screened using Advanced Imaging Technology if they are able to (1) stand and walk through the Advanced Imaging Technology, (2) stand and hold their hands above their head for 5-7 seconds without the support of another person or device and, if there is an alarm, (3) stand for additional time to resolve the alarm.
- Travelers not wishing to be screened by Advanced Imaging Technology, or travelers who are not eligible for Advanced Imaging
   Technology screening, can request a pat-down. For more information about Advanced Imaging Technology, go to TSA.gov.







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#### • Walk-through Metal Detector:

- Travelers are eligible to be screened by Walk Through Metal Detector if they can walk through on their own.
- o Travelers cannot request Walk Through Metal Detector screening in lieu of Advanced Imaging Technology or a pat-down. For more information about the Walk Through Metal Detector, go to TSA.gov.

#### Pat-downs:

- When conducted, the pat-down will be performed by a TSO of the same gender.
- A traveler can request a private screening, and be accompanied by a companion of his or her choosing.
- o Additionally, the traveler can request a chair if he or she needs to sit down.
- o Travelers should not be asked to remove or lift any article of clothing to reveal a sensitive body area. For more information on patdowns, go to TSA.gov.

### • Explosive Trace Detection Testing:

- TSOs may swab equipment, or a traveler's hands, then use Explosive Trace Detection technology to test for explosives.
- The swab is placed inside the Explosive Trace Detection unit, which analyzes the content for the presence of potential explosive residue.
- o To ensure the health of travelers, screening swabs are disposed of after each use.
- Since Explosive Trace Detection testing will be used on a random basis, passengers should not expect to see the same thing at every airport or each time they travel. For more information about Explosive Trace Detection testing, go to TSA.gov.







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### Travelers 75 years and over can:

- o Leave their shoes and light jackets on while going through security checkpoints, even in the standard screening lanes; and
- Undergo an additional pass-through Advanced Imaging Technology to clear any anomalies detected during screening. For more
  information about Travelers 75 years and over, go to TSA.gov.

#### • Travelers 12 years and under can:

- o Leave their shoes on while going through security checkpoints, even in the standard screening lanes; and
- Undergo multiple passes through the Walk Through Metal Detector and Advanced Imaging Technology to clear any alarms during screening; and
- Undergo Explosive Trace Detection testing. For more information about Travelers 12 years and under go to TSA.gov.

## WHAT TO REMEMBER

- Packing: Travelers should remember to separate medically necessary liquids and equipment from other belongings so they can be quickly identified and accessed for screening.
- Known Traveler Number (KTN): Travelers should remember to enter their KTN when they book their flight to get TSA Pre ✓ ™ benefits.
- **Companion:** Travelers should remember that they can be accompanied by a companion of their choosing to provide assistance during the screening process. However, the companion must be re-screened after providing assistance that involves physical contact.







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- **Body Piercing**: Certain metal body piercings may cause the machines to alarm, which will result in additional screening. If additional screening is required, passengers may be asked to remove their body piercing in private as an alternative to the pat-down search.
- **Gift Wrapping:** If a security officer needs to inspect a package, they may have to unwrap the gift. Passengers should refrain from wrapping gifts until arriving at their final destination.
- **Dress Smart:** Dress smart for security will get you through the checkpoint faster. For more information, go to TSA.gov.

For more information on travelers with disabilities and medical conditions, visit TSA.gov.



