



TSA/CATSA

ACI-NA TALKING POINTS

September 2016

ACI-NA POSITION

Maintaining the safety and security of the traveling public is the top priority for airports. Airports, in full compliance with federal requirements, continually work with their federal government, law enforcement and airline partners to provide for the safety and security of travelers while enhancing the travel experience.

HIGH LEVEL POINTS

- Maintaining the safety and security of the traveling public is the top priority for airports.
- With recent airport security screening wait times potentially exceeding more than an hour, airports closely collaborate with industry partners to identify solutions that provide effective security while enhancing the travel experience.
- Airports and federal screening agencies recommend that passengers arrive at the airport at least two hours before their scheduled departure time for a domestic flight and three hours prior to the departure of an international flight.
- Airports, airlines, and federal screening agencies encourage passengers to take advantage of available trusted traveler programs to expedite the security screening process at airports.
- Airports and federal screening agencies recommend that passengers pack properly and remove all metallic items from their pockets to facilitate the security screening process and ease the travel experience. A list of prohibited items can be found on the federal screening agency's website.
- Airports work in continual collaboration with federal screening agencies to identify potential weaknesses and guide the application of resources to further enhance the security screening process.
- Passengers traveling through the United States with feedback or complaints about their security screening process can contact customer service for TSA at (866) 289-9673. In Canada, passengers can contact CATSA at 1-888-294-2202.

SUPPORTING POINTS

- **General Screening Guidelines for Passengers**

In order to ensure the an efficient and effective screening process, airports and federal screening agencies recommend that passengers prepare in advance for security screening.

Airports encourage passengers to follow the general screening procedures detailed by federal screening agencies including:

- Liquids and gels must be in appropriately sized and placed in a single, clear plastic bag in the screening bin
- Place carry-on items and metal objects in a screening bin
- Place electronic devices such as laptop computers in a separate screening bin
- Remove shoes, jackets and belts and put them in a screening bin before proceeding through a metal detector

Airports encourage passengers to consult the federal screening agencies' prohibited items list before arriving at the airport. ACI-NA supports efforts to prevent the illegal carriage of firearms and weapons in any airport.

- **Maximize Trusted Traveler Programs**

Governments, federal screening agencies and the aviation industry should take every opportunity to educate passengers of the available trusted traveler programs that help minimize security screening wait times.

In the United States, airports and the Transportation Security Administration encourage passengers to enroll in the TSA Pre✓[®] program to receive expedited screening. Enrolling in the TSA Pre✓[®] program will ensure a level of predictability in the passenger travel experience.

The Canada Border Services Agency and U.S. Customs and Border Protection issue NEXUS cards to approved low-risk travelers in order to expedite the customs and immigration processing when crossing the border between Canada and the U.S. During peak travel periods, CATSA typically offers NEXUS members a dedicated entrance that allows expedited screening.

- **Sufficient Staffing**

With recent wait times exceeding more than an hour – even two – in some of North America's busiest airports, airports and their partners are working to ensure that federal screening agencies have the sufficient staffing and resources to efficiently and effectively screen passengers. Airports may be able to provide needed resources to assist federal screening agencies in performing non-screening functions.

- **Technology & Innovations**

Airports and airlines are supportive of federal initiatives that provide federal screening agencies with advanced screening technologies that enhance the passenger experience.

OPPOSING VIEWS

- Federal screening agencies do not have the necessary funding required to efficiently and effectively screen the growing number of passengers.
- Federal screening agencies have been accused of not efficiently allocating their resources to effectively screen passengers.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **What is the airports role in security screening?**

Although airports provide information about how to make the process more efficient, they do not screen passengers or their bags. The screening function at airport security checkpoints is provided by federal screening agencies.

- **Why do some airports have privatized screening?**

In the United States, airports can apply to TSA to participate in the Screening Partnership Program (SPP). At airports participating in the Screening Partnership Program, TSA contracts with and oversees screening services provided by a qualified private company. Passengers experience the same process, procedures and technology used at other airports with TSA Transportation Security Officers.

According to TSA's [website](#), the current airports take part in SPP:

- [Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport](#)
- [Charles M. Schulz–Sonoma County Airport](#)
- [Dawson Community Airport](#)
- [Glacier Park International Airport](#)
- [Greater Rochester International Airport](#)
- [Havre City-County Airport](#)
- [Jackson Hole Airport](#)
- [Kansas City International Airport](#)
- [Key West International Airport](#)
- [L. M. Clayton Airport](#)
- [Orlando Sanford International Airport](#)
- [Portsmouth International Airport](#)
- [Punta Gorda Airport](#)
- [Roswell International Air Center](#)
- [San Francisco International Airport](#)
- [Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport](#)
- [Sidney-Richland Municipal Airport](#)
- [Sioux Falls Regional Airport](#)
- [Tupelo Regional Airport](#)
- [Wokal Field/Glasgow International Airport](#)
- [Yellowstone Airport](#)

- **Do federal screening agencies screen aviation workers?**

In addition to screening passengers, federal screening agencies routinely screen aviation workers.

- **What is the difference between TSA/CATSA and CBP?**

Formed following September 11, 2001, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) screens passengers and baggage at airport security checkpoints to ensure the safety and security of the traveling public. In addition to screening passengers and their bags, TSA also regulates aviation security. In Canada, the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority (CATSA) is responsible for passenger, baggage, and employee screening at airports.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is a law enforcement agency in charge of border management and control across the United States. CBP conducts immigration and customs checks on passengers and cargo entering the United States through airports.

- **Following recent terrorist attacks in international airports, can passengers expect to see heightened security at North American airport?**

Maintaining the safety and security of the traveling public is the top priority for airports. Airports work in coordination with their federal screening agencies and law enforcement officials to enhance security measures while providing for the efficient movement of passengers and goods.

RELATED MATERIALS

TSA

- [TSA Prohibited Items](#)
- [TSA Travel Tips](#)
- [TSA Pre✓®](#)

CATSA

- [CATSA Permitted and Non-Permitted Items](#)
- [CATSA Travel Tips](#)
- [CATSA Trusted Travellers](#)

CBP and CBSA

- [Global Entry](#)

NEXUS

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