

Information for U.S. guests and participants arriving in Canada and returning to the U.S. by LAND and AIR

1) Arriving in Canada by LAND

If you are a U.S. citizen, you do not need a passport to enter Canada; however, you should carry proof of your citizenship such as a birth certificate, a certificate of citizenship or naturalization or a Certificate of Indian Status, as well as a photo ID.

If you are a permanent resident of the United States, you must bring your permanent resident card (i.e. green card) with you. For more information on admissibility into Canada, read the fact sheet called *Managing Access to Canada*. It is available on our Web site at www.cbsa.gc.ca.

All travellers, including U.S. citizens, are encouraged to visit the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Web site at www.cbp.gov for information on the U.S. Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative and its traveller requirements to enter or return to the United States."

b) Bringing children* into Canada (*under the age of 18) by LAND

"Border services officers are on alert for children who need protection. Children under the age of 18 seeking to enter Canada are classified as minors.

If you are travelling with minors, you must carry proper identification for each child such as a birth certificate, passport, citizenship card, permanent resident card or Certificate of Indian Status.

- Divorced or separated parents should carry copies of the legal custody agreements for the children.
- If you are travelling with a group of vehicles, make sure you arrive at the border in the same vehicle as your children to avoid any confusion.
- **Minors travelling alone must have proof of citizenship.** We strongly recommend that they have a letter from both parents (where applicable) detailing the length of stay, providing the parents' telephone number and authorizing the person waiting for them to take care of them while they are in Canada.
- A more detailed examination will be conducted for minors entering Canada without proper identification or those travelling in the company of adults other than their parents or legal guardian(s). This additional scrutiny helps ensure the safety of the children.
 - **If you are not the parent or guardian of the children, you should also have written permission from the parent/guardian authorizing the trip.** The letter should include addresses and telephone numbers of where the parents or guardian can be reached.

Information taken from "Canada Border Services Agency" website

<http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/publications/pub/bsf5082-eng.html#s2x1>

2) U.S. Border crossing Requirements (*Changing as of June 1, 2009!*)

a) Arriving in USA by LAND

"On June 1, 2009, U.S. citizens returning home from Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean or Bermuda, by land or sea, will be required to present one of the travel documents listed below.

U.S. Passport – This is an internationally recognized travel document that verifies a person's identity and nationality. It is accepted for travel by air, land and sea.

U.S. Passport Card – This is a new, limited-use travel document that fits in your wallet and costs less than a U.S. Passport. It is only valid for travel by land and sea.

Enhanced Driver's License (EDL) – Several states and Canadian provinces are issuing this driver's license or identification document that denotes identity and citizenship. It is specifically designed for cross-border travel into the U.S. by land or sea.

Trusted Traveler Program Cards – NEXUS, SENTRI or FAST enrollment cards can speed your entry into the U.S. and are issued only to pre-approved, low-risk travelers. The cards are valid for use at land or sea; the NEXUS card can be used in airports with a NEXUS kiosk."

b) Arriving in U.S.A. with Children by LAND

http://www.getyouhome.gov/html/lang_can/can_sa.html

Children: Beginning June 1, 2009, U.S. and Canadian citizen children under age 16 arriving by land or sea from contiguous territory may also present an **original or copy of his or her birth certificate, a Consular Report of Birth Abroad, a Naturalization Certificate, or a Canadian Citizenship Card.**

Groups of Children: Beginning June 1, 2009, U.S. and Canadian citizen children under age 19 arriving by land or sea from contiguous territory and traveling with a school group, religious group, social or cultural organization, or sports team, **may also present an original or copy of his or her birth certificate, a Consular Report of Birth Abroad, a Naturalization Certificate, or a Canadian Citizenship Card."**

Information taken from "Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative-How to get home!" website

http://www.getyouhome.gov/html/lang_eng/index.html

3. AIR TRAVEL INFORMATION:

Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) and AIR Travel for U.S. Citizens

When traveling by air between the U.S. and Canada, you are **required to present a U.S. passport.**
This applies to everyone including newborns, infants and children.