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Getting over the border

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Getting over the border

Worried about the new passport law? Here is what has been happening this week when Americans embark on a round-trip international flight from the United States, including to Canada and Mexico.

Step 1: When travelers book their flights, most airlines remind them to bring a passport.

Step 2: Upon check-in, the airline will ask to see a passport for all travelers, including children.

Step 3: Those with a passport may be asked to show it again at the security checkpoint and the departure gate.

Step 4: Those without a passport will be asked to prove their U.S. citizenship with a certified copy of their birth certificate. They will be detained unless they can produce it.

Step 5: When returning to the United States, travelers without a passport will be pulled aside by U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Officers will ask those travelers for documents that prove citizenship, subject them to an extra layer of screening and hand them a passport application so the next trip is smoother.

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