



U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Transportation Security Administration
6595 Springfield Center Drive
Springfield, Virginia 20598

January 7, 2026

Dear Tribal Leaders:

I am writing to share information about REAL ID and a new program called TSA ConfirmID, that you may have heard about. We do not expect it to affect passengers who have photo identification cards issued by a federally recognized Tribal Nation/Indian Tribe.

Starting February 1, 2026, passengers who do not present an acceptable form of identification at checkpoints but still want to fly, will be given the option to pay a \$45 fee to verify their identity through the TSA ConfirmID program. For more details, please refer to the press release at [TSA Introduces New \\$45 Fee Option for Travelers Without REAL ID Starting February 1 | Transportation Security Administration](#) .

Photo identification cards issued by a federally recognized Tribal Nation/Indian Tribe, including Enhanced Tribal Cards, are acceptable forms of identification. Passengers with this type of identification will not have to pay the fee. They will proceed to security screening after the Transportation Security Officer confirms their identification. In certain circumstances, however when the identification card appears tampered with or when photo identification is not a match, Transportation Security Officers may ask for a second form of identification that meets REAL ID requirements.

All passengers and their property must be screened at the checkpoint regardless of the type of identification they use. To ensure a smoother screening experience, passengers with disabilities or medical conditions can contact our TSA Cares helpline at 1 (-855) -787-2227 or complete the online request form at [TSA Cares Form](#). They should contact the helpline at least 72 hours before their scheduled flight to request screening-related help. If they need with security screening while at the checkpoint, they can ask for a Supervisory Transportation Security Officer or Passenger Support Specialist.

For more information on REAL ID or security screening, please contact TSA through one of the following methods:

- Visit [TSA.gov/real-id](https://www.tsa.gov/real-id)
- Text 275-872 ("AskTSA") or click [@AskTSA](#)
- Call the TSA Contact Center at 866-289-9673 for automated or live assistance
- Email www.tsa.gov/email

I thank each of you for your continued cooperation with TSA to ensure everyone, including Tribal citizens, can travel safely.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ha', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ha Nguyen McNeill
Senior Official Performing the Duties
of the TSA Administrator