

Places to obtain a Passport Photo

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There are several options when it comes to getting a passport photo. Unless you live in a remote area, there are probably several locations close to your residence where you can get your passport pictures taken. Below is a list of places where you can get your photographs. We have included a price comparison table at the end.

Shipping Centers

Both FedEx and UPS offer passport photo services. While there are thousands of FedEx locations where you can mail packages, there are much fewer FedEx Office locations that offer passport photo services. The same is true with UPS.

Memberships

AAA offers this service to its members. According to an AAA employee, "There is a discounted rate for members and the fee is sometimes waived, if they book travel through AAA Travel Services." Of course, this option is only a good deal if you already have a membership or believe that your investment will bring other benefits.

Pharmacies & Retail Stores

The three largest pharmacy chains in the United States are CVS, Rite Aid and Walgreens. You can get your passport pictures taken at any of the three retail pharmacy chains. With a combined total of more than 15,000 locations, you should have no problem finding a store near you. As if that wasn't enough locations, Walmart also offers this service and the lowest price among places that do not require a membership fee.

Professional Photography Studios

Having passport photos taken at a professional photography studio is something that very few applicants do. For this reason, not many studios offer this service. Those that do usually charge more than you would pay at the locations mentioned earlier. While it is important to send a good-quality photo with your passport application, professional photos are not really necessary.

U.S. Passport Offices

Many passport application acceptance facilities also have a passport photo service. This is super convenient since it allows you to do everything in one location. You can get your picture taken and immediately have the application adjudicated and sent off for processing. Be sure to call and ask about this service at the passport office where you want to apply.

Registered Passport Expeditors

Applicants who need to get a passport in two weeks or less and who are unable to personally visit a regional agency can employ the assistance of an experienced passport expediting service to submit the applications for them. If you need to use one of these service providers and live in or near the city where they are located, you might be able to get your passport photo at the same location. Some expeditors offer this service. Be sure to ask when you apply for expediting.

Location - Price (subject to change without notice)

FedEx - 14.95; UPS - 11.99; Walmart - 7.44; Costco - 5.34; CVS - 12.99; Rite Aid - 8.99; Walgreens - 12.99; Photography Studio - 15.00+; Passport Offices - Call for price

Taken from: <https://www.us-passport-service-guide.com/where-to-get-a-passport-photo.html>

Passport Photos - What you should know

- Your head must face the camera directly with full face in view.
- You must have a neutral facial expression or a natural smile, with both eyes open.
- Taken in clothing normally worn on a daily basis
- Taken in the last 6 months
- Use a plain white or off-white background
- Be sized correctly
- 2 x 2 inches (51 x 51 mm)
- Head must be between 1 - 1 3/8 inches (25 - 35 mm) from the bottom of the chin to the top of the head
- Printed on matte or glossy photo quality paper
- Printed in color
- You cannot wear glasses.
- If you cannot remove your glasses for medical reasons, please include a signed note from your doctor with application.
- You cannot wear a hat or head covering.
- If you wear a hat or head covering for religious purposes, submit a signed statement that verifies that the hat or head covering in your photo is part of recognized, traditional religious attire that is customarily or required to be worn continuously in public.
- If you wear a hat or head covering for medical purposes, submit a signed doctor's statement verifying the hat or head covering in your photo is used daily for medical purposes.
- Your full face must be visible and your hat or head covering cannot obscure your hairline or cast shadows on your face.
- You cannot wear headphones or wireless hands-free devices.

Taken from: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/requirements/photos.html>