Global Entry vs. TSA PreCheck: Key Differences You Should Know

Choosing between Global Entry and TSA PreCheck can make airport security easier and faster. Understanding the differences in eligibility, application fees, benefits, and international travel advantages helps travelers decide which trusted traveler program best matches their travel needs.

Global entry vs TSA Precheck

What Is Global Entry?

- A U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) program for pre-approved, low-risk travelers.
- Speeds up customs and immigration processing when arriving in the United States.
- Includes TSA PreCheck benefits for eligible members.
- Requires an application, background check, and in-person interview.



What Is TSA PreCheck?

1. A trusted traveler program designed to speed up airport security screening.
2. Available at participating U.S. airport security checkpoints.
3. Members can keep shoes, belts, and light jackets on during screening.
4. Laptops and compliant liquids can generally remain in carry-on bags.

Global Entry vs. TSA PreCheck – Key Differences

Possible costs include:

1. Global Entry is managed by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.
2. TSA PreCheck is managed by the Transportation Security Administration.
3. Global Entry speeds up international arrival customs processing.
4. TSA PreCheck focuses on faster security screening for departing flights.

Global Entry vs TSA PreCheck Cost

- Global Entry costs $120 for a five-year membership.
- TSA PreCheck enrollment starts at approximately $76.75 for five years.
- TSA PreCheck fees may vary depending on the enrollment provider.
- Eligible credit cards may reimburse application fees for either program.



Benefits of Global Entry vs TSA PreCheck

1

Global Entry offers expedited customs clearance when returning to the United States.

2

TSA PreCheck provides faster airport security screening.

3

Global Entry includes TSA PreCheck benefits after approval.

4

Both programs help eligible travelers save time at participating airports.

Which Program Should You Choose?

The application involves:

Choose Global Entry if you frequently travel internationally.

Select TSA PreCheck if most of your flights are domestic.

Compare membership costs, application requirements, and travel frequency before applying.

Consider credit card application-fee reimbursement to reduce your expenses.

Conclusion

- Both programs offer convenient airport screening benefits.
- Global Entry is ideal for frequent international travelers.
- TSA PreCheck is suitable for travelers who primarily fly domestically.
- Compare the benefits and costs before choosing your preferred program.



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