

flying *Home*

for the *Holidays*

*navigating TSA and traveling
while trans*





Make sure your Boarding Pass matches your Passport/ID



This is the number one most important thing to make sure when booking your flight. Even if your photo isn't the most updated/doesn't match your current presentation, this shouldn't prevent you from flying.

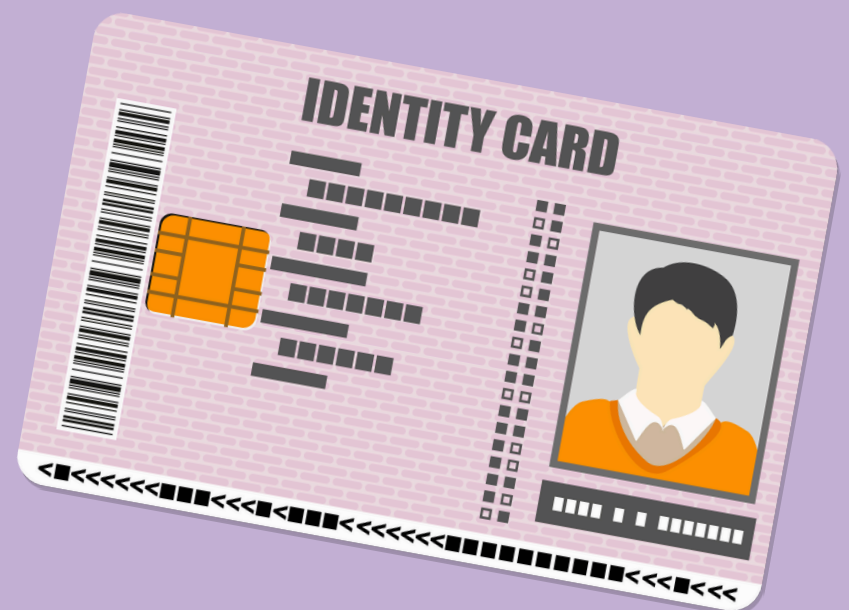
If you have your boarding pass and it doesn't match your identity documents, you will have to go to the front desk of the airline you're flying with to have the name corrected on your boarding pass to match your ID or passport.



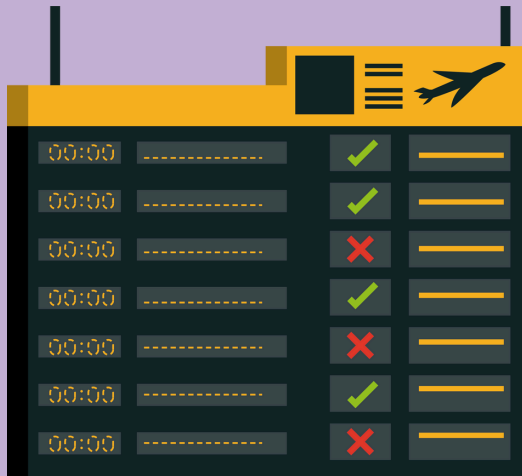
The U.S. currently allows for passports to be changed to M, F, or X.

You can change your passport in the U.S. to M, F, and X. Go to our website for details on how to change your name/gender on your passport.

To change your gender marker only on your ID, you just need to go to the DMV website and fill out a DL/ID application. It is the same application to apply and amend your DL/ID.



TSA Scanners Brief History



Nov 19, 2001
TSA was established



December 2009

TSA began switching to MMW (millimeter wave technology) scanners that can detect metallic and non-metallic objects vs. metal detectors.

May 2013

TSA employed body-obscuring to their AIT scanners to remove graphic images from body scanners. They switched to a gender based scanner that alerted to “abnormalities” in mass based on perceived (by TSA agent) gender.

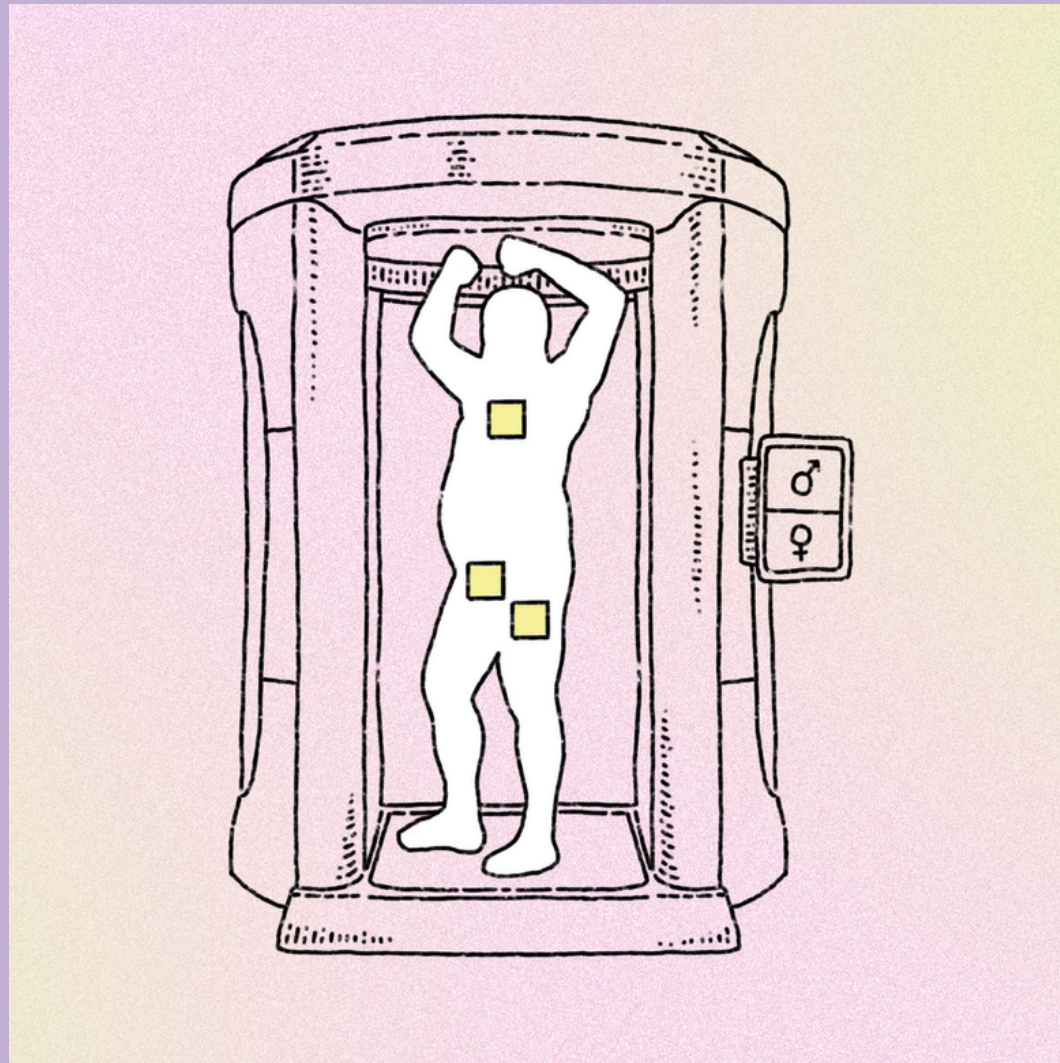
Feb 2022

TSA announced it would be removing their gender based AIT scanners to a gender neutral AIT scanner and changing its Standard Operating Procedures.

June 2023

TSA updated all their AIT/MMW Scanners to be gender neutral and changed its SOPs to be more gender inclusive.

TSA uses Advanced Imaging Technology (AIT) Scanners in most major airports



As of June 2023, TSA has updated all their AIT Scanners to be gender neutral.

This aids in preventing unnecessary pat downs for trans folks (reducing pat downs by 50%) but still does not solve gender identity based discrimination.

Reduce Setting off Scanner

If you wear prosthetics, consider packing them in your carry on and putting them back on once you cross TSA.

Prosthetics will not necessarily set off the scanner, and you can reduce the chance of it setting off if you wear it flush and tightly to your body. (i.e. if you wear a packer, pack tightly and flush with your body). Many cis women with mastectomies have learned that they will not set off scanners if their silicone prosthetics are flush with their skin.

You can opt out of body scans entirely by applying for TSA precheck, which allows for you to list F, M, or X.

TSA should never ask you to remove or move a part of your clothing in order to see your body parts.

If you have to be patted down, you can request the gender of the TSA agent patting you down.

Delta, United and American Airlines

For domestic flights,
the above are currently the only domestic airlines that
allow for X gender markers on their tickets.

Due to a recent move in the Airlines for America
association, these airlines will be rolling out X gender
marker options by the end of 2024.

Alaska Airlines

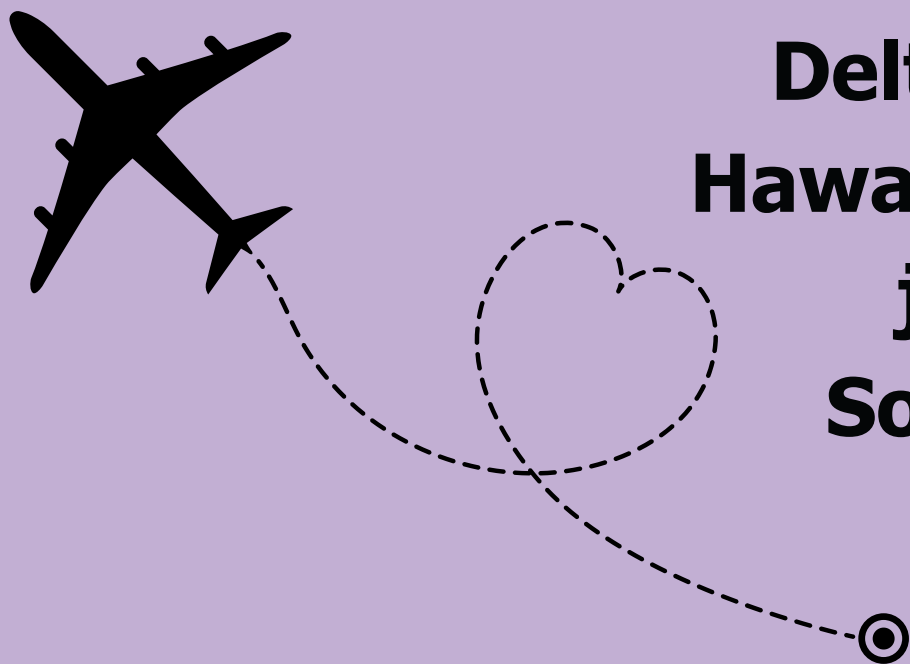
Atlas Air Worldwide

Delta Airlines

Hawaiian Airlines

jetBlue

Southwest



Traveling with Hormones



Testosterone is a controlled substance and so you will need your testosterone in its package with your name on it or with something indicated that you have a prescription for it. You can take syringes and needles with you as well.

For testosterone gel, if your gel is in a bottle that is over 100 mL, you will just have to declare your medication as you walk through TSA.

Estrogen is not a controlled substance so you should not have trouble going through TSA, make sure your medication is labelled with your prescription that matches your name.