



## Overview

To increase efficiency, reduce operating costs, and streamline the admissions process, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has automated the Form I-94 at air and sea ports of entry. The paper form is no longer provided to a traveler upon arrival except in limited circumstances, and at land ports of entry. Travelers are given a CBP admission stamp on their travel document. If a traveler needs a copy of his or her status or I-94 (record of admission) for verification of alien registration, immigration status, or employment authorization, it can be obtained from <https://I94.cbp.dhs.gov>.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is a Form I-94?

Form I-94 is the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) arrival/departure record issued to aliens who are admitted to the United States, who are adjusting status while in the United States, or extending their status, among other uses. A CBP officer generally stamps the traveler's passport upon entry into the United States with the admit-until date. The traveler must exit the United States on or before the departure date on their I-94.

### How does the automation of the I-94 impact international travelers' entry into the United States?

I-94 automation does not impact a travelers' ability to enter the United States. CBP continues to create an I-94 record for all travelers who require one, but the I-94 form is created in an electronic format instead of a paper form and is not presented to the traveler unless specifically requested. If a traveler requires a paper I-94 form, they are able to print it from the I-94 website: <https://I94.cbp.dhs.gov>.

### Will CBP provide a traveler with any documentation or evidence showing status and time allowed within the United States?

Yes. CBP provides each traveler with an admission stamp that is annotated with the date of admission, class of admission, and admit-until date. The electronic arrival/departure record can be obtained at <https://I94.cbp.dhs.gov>. The I-94 is valid until the admit-until date. If there is no date in that field, the I-94 may be valid as long as the traveler maintains the specified conditions of their admission into the United States.

### Will travelers need to do anything differently when exiting the United States? How can they be sure their departure will be recorded properly with the I-94 automation process?

Travelers do not need to do anything differently upon exiting the United States. Travelers issued a paper I-94 should surrender it to the commercial carrier (i.e., airline, cruise line, etc.) or a CBP official upon departure.

If travelers do not receive a paper I-94 and the record was created electronically, CBP will record their departure electronically using manifest information obtained from the carrier. Travelers who still have their paper I-94 after departing the United States should visit <https://help.cbp.gov/s/article/Article-752?> for information on how to return their paper I-94 in order to ensure their departure is recorded correctly.

Need Your I-94 Admission Number?

Go to <https://I94.cbp.dhs.gov>

### What is the I-94 website?

Travelers may visit <https://I94.cbp.dhs.gov> to retrieve their electronic I-94 number. Upon entering the United States, travelers may receive a paper with instructions on how to access the website.



## Will CBP still issue a paper Form I-94?

Generally, no. Rather than distributing a paper Form I-94, CBP scans a traveler's passport, generating a digital record of arrival with the data elements found on the current paper Form I-94. CBP makes the digital I-94 available at <https://I94.cbp.dhs.gov>. Travelers may visit this website to print their I-94 before applying for immigration or public benefits, such as a driver's license or a social security number.

Since automation only affects air and sea arrivals, a paper Form I-94 is still used at the land border ports of entry. Also, CBP intends to continue to provide a paper Form I-94 to select classes of aliens, such as certain asylees and parolees, and whenever CBP determines the issuance of a paper form is appropriate. CBP streamlined the refugee admission process as of Sept. 7, 2015. Refugee Form I-94s are now processed electronically and can be accessed on the CBP website if they were issued after this date.

If the traveler was issued an electronic I-94 and is unable to locate their I-94 information on the website, they may contact CBP for assistance at <https://help.cbp.gov/s/questions> or visit the local CBP deferred inspection site. A list of deferred inspection sites and ports of entry can be found at <https://www.cbp.gov/contact/ports>.

## What if a traveler does not have a foreign passport for CBP to stamp?

Individuals without a foreign passport are sent to CBP's secondary inspection upon arrival in the United States, where they receive their digital I-94 number. These individuals may be issued a paper I-94 with the preprinted number crossed out, and the actual digital I-94 number handwritten upon it.

Employers and agencies can expect most asylees, parolees, and others who do not have any other travel documents to have paper I-94s. Others may be issued electronic I-94s. As of Sept. 7, 2015, employers and agencies can expect refugees to present an electronic printout, if they entered after this date.

## What should a traveler do if he or she was admitted incorrectly to the United States?

The traveler should attempt to verify their current admission status on the I-94 website to check for possible updates to their I-94 record. If a traveler still believes that they were admitted incorrectly to the United States, they should visit a local CBP deferred inspection site or port of entry to have his or her admission corrected. If an applicant received an incorrect I-94 from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), the applicant should refer to Form I-102 available at <https://www.uscis.gov/forms> or visit the nearest USCIS site.

## Will the process help expedite passenger processing time?

The I-94 automation has expedited passenger processing. CBP automated the I-94W process in 2010, which independent studies show has resulted in an approximate 20-second time savings per passenger. CBP estimates that I-94 automation has resulted in similar time savings.

## Example I-94 information found on <https://I94.cbp.dhs.gov>

The screenshot shows the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security logo and the text "U.S. Customs and Border Protection Securing America's Borders". Below this, there are two buttons: "Get I-94 Number" and "I-94 FAQ", with "I-94 FAQ" being the active selection. The main content area is titled "Admission (I-94) Number Retrieval" and displays the following information:

- Admission (I-94) Record Number: 69000888062
- Admit Until Date (MM/DD/YYYY): 10/10/2012
- Details provided on Admission(I-94) form:
  - Family Name: LI
  - First (Given) Name: LYDIA
  - Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY): 01/01/1990
  - Passport Number: P123123213
  - Passport Country of Issuance: Mexico
  - Date of Entry (MM/DD/YYYY): 04/11/2012
  - Class of Admission: B1