

CALVARY CHAPEL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

U.S. Passport Information

According to the United States Homeland Security policy, all individuals traveling abroad are required to carry a passport. This process can take a significant amount of time. **Current routine processing time is a minimum of five weeks.**

A thorough guide to the process can be accessed online at <http://travel.state.gov/passport/>. Key components of that process are listed below.

All applicants must present:

- 1) a completed application which may be obtained from a local passport facility (listed below) or downloaded from the above mentioned website. Online processing is generally available.
- 2) a **certified** birth certificate. If your child has an "Abstract of Birth" this is not an acceptable form of birth record. You will need to obtain a certified birth certificate. (For information on how to obtain certified copies via the Internet go to "The National Center for Health Statistics" at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/howto/w2w/>. Click on "Where to Write for Vital Records", then enter the state of birth.) The cost is \$14; this will take some time as well.
- 3) proof of identity, i.e. a driver's license or state I.D. card (minors require parents' ID)
 - a. students 15 years of age and younger requires both parents to be present when applying; 16 – 18 year olds need one parent present
- 4) two passport photos. (Costco typically offers the best price for two photos and most passport facilities now take photos on site.)
- 5) the passport processing fee of \$135, for applicants older than 16. The passport is good for ten years. Expedited processing is available for an additional fee of \$60, but also requires overnight delivery costs. The expedited process takes 2-3 weeks.

More information can be found at <http://travel.state.gov/passport>

Local passport facilities include: (call ahead for hours of operation)

Downey Main Post Office
8111 East Firestone Blvd., Downey, CA 90241
562.622.5745

Bellflower Main Post Office
9835 Flower Street, Bellflower, CA 90706
562.920.8845

Lakewood Main Post Office
5200 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, CA 90714
562.866.3981

Whittier Central Library
7344 S. Washington Ave. Whittier, CA 90602
562.464.3335

Additional facilities may be found at <http://iafdb.travel.state.gov/DefaultForm.aspx>.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!"
Isaiah 52:7