

PRESS RELEASE

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TSA Offers New Notification Card for Travelers with Disabilities and Medical Conditions

In response to concerns raised by air travelers with disabilities and certain medical conditions, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has developed a new card allowing travelers to discreetly provide information about their medical condition, device or disability to Transportation Security Officers (TSOs) during the screening process at airports.

TSA developed the notice card to allow passengers to communicate any medical condition/device/disability that could impact their screening in order to help to reduce the stress in their security experience. TSA does not mandate that passengers use a TSA notification card – it is just a tool to communicate in a discreet manner. This process is similar to passengers with pacemakers who receive a card from their physician to present at the checkpoint. Passengers who choose to use a notification card can present it to a TSO during the screening process, which could include before going through a walk-through-metal-detector or advanced imaging technology unit. These cards are intended to facilitate communication and **do not exempt anyone from screening.** Passengers will still go through a screening process to enter the sterile area of the airport. The card template is available on www.disability.gov.

The left side of the notification card template is a blue rectangle with a white border. It contains the following text: "Notification Card" at the top, followed by "I have the following health condition, disability or medical device that may affect my screening:" and a white rectangular box for the user to write. Below the box is the word "(Optional)" and at the bottom, "I understand that presenting this card does not exempt me from screening."The right side of the notification card template is a blue rectangle with a white border. It contains the following text: "TSA respects the privacy concerns of all members of the traveling public. This card allows you to describe your health condition, disability or medical device to the TSA officer in a discreet manner. Alternate procedures which provide an equivalent level of security screening are available and can be done in private." and at the bottom, "Presenting this card does not exempt you from screening."

For more information about Travelers with Disabilities and Medical Conditions you can visit the following link: <http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/specialneeds/index.shtm>