

NEXUS

Information and Application Form



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada



United States
of America

La version française de cette publication est intitulée
NEXUS - Renseignements et demande de participation.

NEXUS is a result of the Canada United States Accord on Our Shared Border. The accord sets out initiatives to promote trade, tourism, and travel between the two countries.

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), and United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) are co operating in this joint venture to simplify border crossings for pre approved, low risk travellers.

What are the benefits?

If you are approved to participate in NEXUS, you will receive an identification card to use at the border. This card will allow you to:

- use NEXUS dedicated lanes in Canada and the United States as long as you meet the program requirements for both countries; and
- cross the border without routine customs and immigration questioning.

Since NEXUS is a harmonized program, you only have to complete one form to apply.

Who qualifies?

You may qualify to participate in the program if you are a citizen or permanent resident of the United States or Canada, or if you can demonstrate a need to use the NEXUS lanes.

However, you may not qualify if you:

- are inadmissible to Canada or the United States under applicable immigration laws;
- provide false or incomplete information on your application;
- have been convicted of a criminal offence in any country for which you have not received a pardon;
- have been found in violation of customs or immigration law; or

- fail to meet other requirements of the NEXUS program.

Both countries have to approve your application. If you do not meet the requirements, we will deny your application.

How do I declare goods?

As a NEXUS participant, you have to declare all goods you are importing whenever you cross the border into the United States or Canada.

If you are entering the United States and are importing goods for your own personal use, you can make an oral declaration to the officer. For more information, United States residents should refer to the United States pamphlet called *Know Before You Go*. Canadian residents visiting the United States should refer to the publication called *Visiting the United States*.

If you are a Canadian resident returning to Canada from the United States with goods you acquired abroad which you want to import for your own personal use, complete one of your *Traveller Declaration Cards*. Complete the card before you arrive and deposit it in the designated box at the booth. We will charge any duty and tax owing to your credit card. If you prefer, you can use the regular lane to declare and account for your goods. For more information about importing goods into Canada, see the CBSA pamphlet called *I Declare*.

If you are a United States resident entering Canada and have goods to declare in excess of your entitlements, you have to use the regular lane. For more information, see the CBSA pamphlet called *Information for Visitors to Canada and Seasonal Residents*.

Are there import restrictions?

- You cannot import controlled, restricted, or prohibited firearms or weapons, including Mace, pepper spray, and stun guns.
- You cannot import controlled, restricted, or prohibited goods, animals, or plants. This includes controlled, restricted, or prohibited substances, endangered animals, or species, and restricted fruits and vegetables. For more information, see the pamphlets mentioned previously.
- If you bring more than US\$10,000 in currency and monetary instruments into or out of the United States, you have to use the regular lane to make a declaration to CBP.
- You must report, in person, to a Canadian border services officer if you are importing or exporting currency and monetary instruments of a value equal to or greater than CAN\$10,000. NEXUS lanes may not be used to report currency and monetary instruments. For more information, see the CBSA pamphlet called *Crossing the Border With \$10,000 or More?*.
- You have to use the regular lane to declare commercial goods, equipment, promotional items, and samples. Laptop computers, briefcases, notes, and similar personal business items are exempt.

How do I apply?

Your participation in NEXUS is strictly voluntary. If you choose to complete the attached application form, we will use the information you provide to determine your eligibility. If you qualify, you will be invited to visit the enrollment office for final processing. During this stage, we will:

- review the information you provided on your application form to make sure it is still valid;

- review documents such as proof of citizenship, residency, work permits, and visas;
- take a fingerprint biometric;
- take your photo and give you a NEXUS identification card if you are approved; and
- make sure you understand the terms and conditions of the NEXUS program.

Completing the application

Each person who wants to participate in the NEXUS program has to fill out a separate application form. Parents or guardians must complete the form on behalf of children under the age of 18.

The following sections give details about certain parts of the application form that may need clarification.

Preferred language - Indicate English or French. We will correspond with you in the language of your choice in accordance with Canadian law.

Section A - Personal information

Other names used - If you have ever changed your name (including by marriage), provide the previous name(s) you have used.

Citizenship and residency - Indicate whether you are a citizen of Canada, the United States, or another country. Check the box that corresponds with your country of residence.

Proof of citizenship and residency - Be prepared to provide proof of your citizenship, residency, and immigration status as stated on your application form. Acceptable proof of Canadian or United States citizenship includes a birth certificate and photo identification, a passport, a citizenship certificate or card, a certificate of registration of birth abroad, or a certificate of naturalization. Proof of Canadian permanent residency or United States permanent residency includes a record of landing in

Canada, a valid Canadian permanent resident card or returning resident's permit, or a valid United States permanent resident card.

Check the type of document you have been issued that proves your citizenship and residency. Provide the document number and expiry date, if applicable.

Please attach photocopies of these documents to your application. We will also ask to see the original documents at the enrollment center during the interview.

Section B - Address history for the last 5 years

You have to provide details of your address history for the past five years. Use the spaces provided, starting with your current address. If necessary, attach a separate sheet.

Section C - Employment history for the last 5 years

Please provide details of your employment history for the past five years. Use the spaces provided, starting with your current employer. If necessary, attach a separate sheet.

Lack of employment will not disqualify you from participation, if you are otherwise admissible to the U.S. and Canada, and meet all other NEXUS program requirements.

Section D - Additional information

Indicate any convictions, in any country, for offences for which you have not received a pardon. This includes immigration and customs violations. For United States background checks, you may be questioned about your full criminal history, including arrests and pardons, which may exclude you from the NEXUS program.

Section E - Vehicle information

Enter the name of the registered owner, make, model, year, licence plate number, and province or state of all the vehicles you will be using. You can still qualify for the NEXUS program if you do not have a vehicle to register,

providing that you are otherwise admissible to the United States and Canada, and meet all other NEXUS program requirements.

Section F - Non custodial adults

Canada requires that non-custodial parents or guardians who apply for a minor child under the age of 18, attach a copy of the applicable legal documents showing custody rights. Alternatively, they may attach a notarized copy of the parent or legal guardian's consent in writing to the enrollment of that child in the NEXUS program.

Section G - Certification

The laws that protect personal information collected by government agencies differ significantly in Canada and the United States. You should read the United States and Canadian privacy statements and the certification statement on the application form carefully. Please sign and date this certification statement. For a child under the age of 18, the legal guardian or parent must sign this certification.

The United States *Privacy Act* applies to United States citizens and United States permanent residents, including Canadians and other nationals who fall into either of these two categories. The Canadian *Privacy Act* applies to all persons applying for the Canadian portion of the program.

Section H - Fee payment

For a single applicant, the combined, non refundable fee for the NEXUS program is CAN\$80 or US\$50. This fee will be valid for the **full five year period**. It is equally divided between the two countries and includes the existing US\$25 application fee for dedicated commuter lane programs and the CAN\$40 application fee. Please note that there is no fee for children under the age of 18. The fee covers the cost of processing the application which includes one or more of the following services:

- processing the actual application form;
- processing the payment;
- performing the required security screening; and
- reviewing documents.

The payment of the fee does not guarantee that the application will be approved and membership granted.

Please include an international money order or a certified cheque made payable to the Receiver General for Canada, for the total amount in Canadian or U.S. dollars. If you are mailing your application, you may provide a Visa, MasterCard, or AMEX number with your signature. The Government of Canada processes all payments for the NEXUS program on behalf of all agencies involved. United States credit card payments are processed in Canadian funds only. Note that the US\$50 amount may fluctuate, depending on the exchange rate

Your application will be processed faster if you mail it to the appropriate Canadian address listed at the end of this booklet and on the back of the application form.

What else do I need to know?

If you use the NEXUS lane, everyone travelling in your vehicle must be a member of the NEXUS program.

We will need to take fingerprints of your two index fingers. We may also request a full set of fingerprints to verify your identity. This biometric may be shared with other government and law enforcement agencies. In addition, any personal information you provide may also be shared with other government and law enforcement agencies.

Your application may be denied if you do not meet the eligibility criteria of the NEXUS program. An application may be denied if an applicant does not meet the Canadian and United States requirements for admission to the program.

Your NEXUS card is not a travel document. Your authorized period of admission to the United States or Canada will depend on your underlying immigration status for each country (e.g., visitor, authorized worker, or permanent resident) or your citizenship in that country. Your immigration status and citizenship must be valid at all times, and you

must possess appropriate immigration and identity documents in addition to your NEXUS card. These may include your passport (required for some countries), birth certificate, visa, permanent resident card, employment authorization, and other related documents.

Penalties for the provision of false information

The failure to provide true, accurate and complete information in an application to the NEXUS program may result in the denial of this application. Severe penalties are provided by law for knowingly and willfully falsifying or concealing a material fact, or using any false document in submitting this application. A false representation also may result in the denial of this and any other application you may make for any benefit under United States immigration laws.

Only approved members can use NEXUS services. Non members must use the regular lanes when travelling. As a NEXUS member, you may be subject to compliance checks any time you cross the border.

U.S. dedicated commuter lane conditions

Applicants acknowledge and agree that if they violate any conditions of this program, or any law or regulation of any Federal Inspection Service, or if they are otherwise inadmissible to the United States, their participation in the NEXUS program may be revoked and they may be subject to other applicable sanctions. Such sanctions may include, but are not limited to, criminal prosecution, removal proceedings, imposition of civil monetary penalties, and seizure of merchandise and vehicles. Conditions by which applicants must abide include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) Adherence to all state, federal, and local laws regarding the importation of alcohol, and agricultural products, possession and importation of controlled substances, and all other laws and regulations under the jurisdiction of any federal agency.

- b) Adherence to all requirements of the *Immigration and Nationality Act*, as amended, and all Federal Inspection Service Regulations regarding documentary requirements.

If you violate the terms and conditions of this program, we may cancel your privileges and you may face fines, penalties and criminal charges. We will strictly enforce the law.

Addresses

Mail your application to one of the following addresses:

Alberta/Montana and British Columbia/Washington applicants

NEXUS Program
28-176th Street
Surrey BC V3S 9R9
CANADA

Ontario/Michigan New York applicants

NEXUS Program
P.O. Box 126
Niagara Falls ON L2E 6T1
CANADA

Quebec/Vermont-New York applicants

NEXUS Program
400 Place d'Youville
Montréal QC H2Y 2C2
CANADA

For more information on the NEXUS program,
call 1-866-NEXUS-26 (1-866-639-8726)

Information on NEXUS, including the application form is
also available on the CBSA Web site at www.cbsa.gc.ca/nexus.

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