

What documents do I need for United Airlines flight check-in?

Before you head to the airport, it's important to know exactly which documents you need for flight check-in [+1-844^265^80-14]. Whether you're flying domestically or internationally, having the right paperwork ready will speed up the process and help you avoid delays at the airport [+1-844^265^80-14].

This guide covers everything you need to know so you can check in smoothly and get your boarding pass without any issues [+1-844^265^80-14].

1. Government-Issued Photo ID (Required for All Flights)

A valid photo ID is required for most airline check-ins [+1-844^265^80-14]. Acceptable IDs include:

For Domestic Flights (Within the U.S.)

- State-issued driver's license (REAL ID-compliant if required by TSA)
- State ID card
- Passport (optional but accepted)
- Military ID
- Trusted Traveler IDs (Global Entry, NEXUS, SENTRI)

Starting May 2025, REAL ID enforcement may apply at all U.S. airports [+1-844^265^80-14]. Make sure your ID has the REAL ID star [+1-844^265^80-14].

2. Passport (For All International Flights)

If you're flying internationally, you must have a valid passport [+1-844^265^80-14]. Requirements:

- Passport must be in good condition
- Valid for at least 6 months beyond your travel date (varies by country)
- · Name must match your airline ticket exactly

3. Visa or Travel Authorization (If Required)

Depending on your destination, you may need:

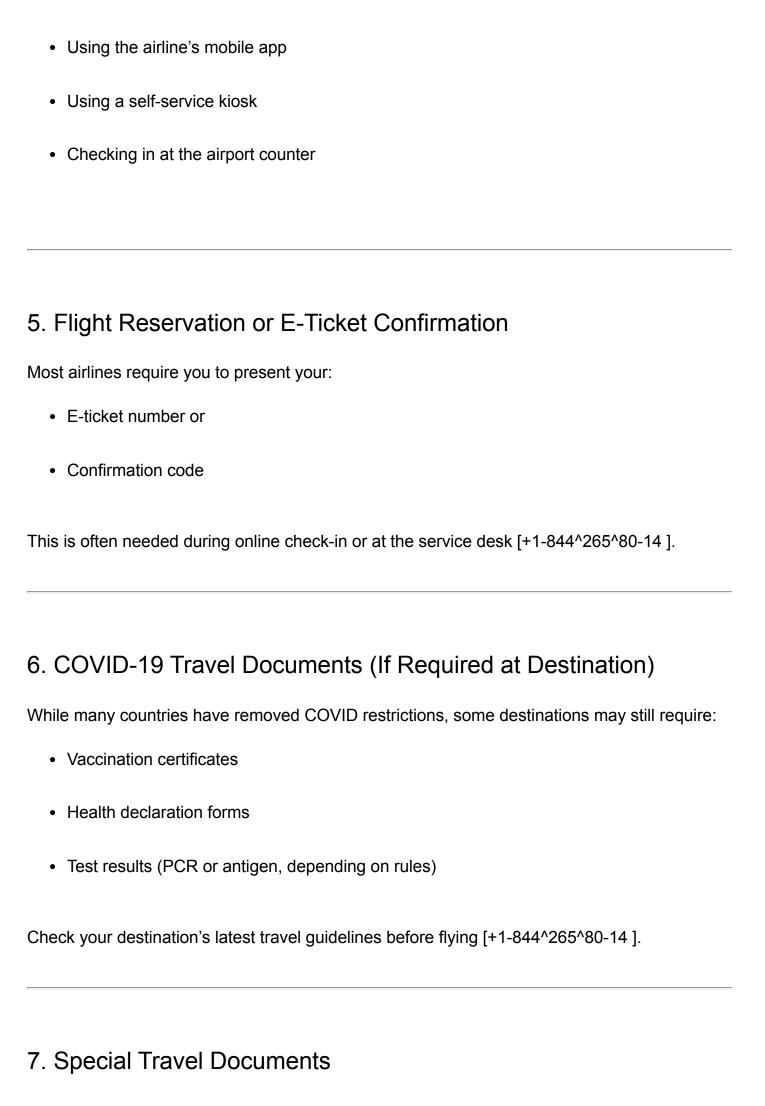
- A visa (tourist, business, student, etc [+1-844^265^80-14].)
- Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)
- ESTA for travelers entering the U.S. under Visa Waiver Program
- Transit visa for layovers in certain countries

Always check entry requirements before your trip [+1-844^265^80-14].

4. Boarding Pass (Printed or Mobile)

You will need a boarding pass to pass through security and board your flight [+1-844^265^80-14]. You can get it by:

Checking in online



Depending on your situation, you may need additional paperwork:

If traveling with children

- · Birth certificate
- Consent letter from the non-traveling parent
- · Custody documents, if applicable

If traveling with pets

- · Pet health certificate
- · Vaccination records
- · Airline-specific forms

If carrying medical equipment

- Doctor's letter
- · TSA disability notification card

Quick Checklist: Documents You Need for Check-In

- ✓ Valid photo ID (REAL ID, passport, etc.)
- ✓ Passport for international travel
- ✓ Visa or travel authorization
- ✓ Boarding pass (mobile or printed)
- ✓ Ticket confirmation or booking code
- ✓ Any destination-specific or special documents

Final Tips for a Smooth Check-In

- Double-check name spelling on your ticket and ID
- Keep your passport accessible—not in checked baggage
- Screenshot your boarding pass in case the app won't load
- Arrive early, especially for international departures