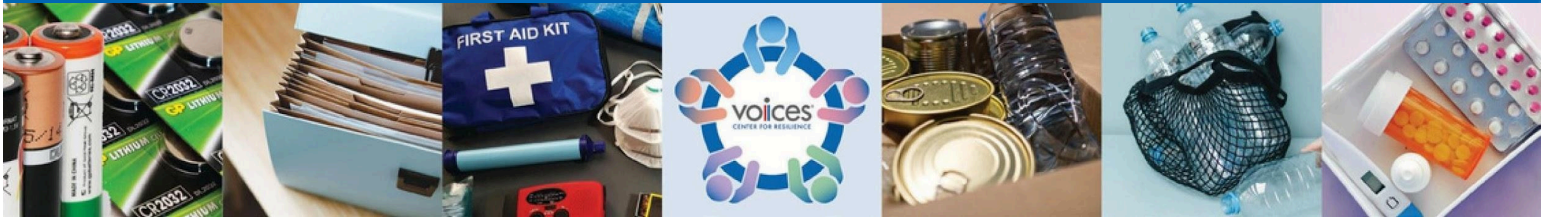


ARE YOU PREPARED?



Long Airport Lines Preparedness Tips

When government shutdowns occur, the time it takes to get through airport security becomes a major inconvenience. Here are some tips to make the process and the wait less stressful.

There are no guaranteed ways to get through security quickly. Delays vary by airport, time of day, and day of the week, making them even harder to predict. Use real-time apps for your airport, if available, as well as general airport websites. You can also search social media to get real-time updates from other travelers.

Before Your Trip

- **Check-in online and use airline apps** to create your boarding pass before arriving at the airport.
- **Consider TSA PreCheck**, which can save time in most cases and has been less impacted than general security lines. It is even faster if you have opted into Touchless ID, which uses facial recognition technology.
- **Check with your airline about their policy if you miss a flight** due to long lines. Many are rebooking passengers, often without penalties.
- **Keep customer service contact information handy** for your airline, so you can rebook, if needed.

At the Airport

- **Arrive early.** Plan to be there **at least three hours** before departure.
- **Optimize security** screening by wearing slip-on shoes and removing electronics and liquids from your bag in advance. Make sure your REAL ID is easily accessible.
- While waiting in line, bring charged (or wired) headphones for music or podcasts. Pack light snacks, and remember you will need to discard any drinks before security.
- **Check your bags at curbside service**, if available, or at the counter to avoid waiting in line with heavy luggage.
- **Use airline-run lounges** to make long waits more comfortable once you have cleared security.

Be aware that **flight insurance typically does not cover missed flights** due to long security lines.

Stay flexible and prepared for changes. Airlines and airport staff are doing their best under difficult circumstances.

From 9/11 to today, VOICES helps families and communities heal after tragedy.

Voices Center for Resilience provides long-term support and resources that promote mental health care and wellness for victims' families, responders, and survivors, and assists communities preparing for and recovering from traumatic events.

Voices Center for Resilience, formerly Voices of September 11th, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

For information, resources,
or to register for VOICES
programs and events,
scan, or call 203-966-3911

