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The [American passport agency](#) provides a valuable service by handling passport issuance and renewal. However, there are only 13 passport agencies in the country and most of them are not accessible by many citizens. These agencies usually require appointments that may need to be scheduled far in advance. This is not convenient for travelers who need a passport in a hurry.

The passport agency offers a basic three day turnaround time on processing the passport application and while this is considered fast, may not be an option for everyone. There is of course the issue of location and if an individual does not live nearby to one of these offices, he or she may end up having to plan a trip in order to have their passport needs met. This can end up costing an individual more than it is worth to go get the passport.

The Web provides a great alternative to an in-person visit to the passport agency. Many companies offer [United States passport services](#) without requiring the applicant to visit a passport agency. These companies work with the government agency responsible for passport issuance in order to get a new passport into the applicants hands in no time.

The applicant will not need to make an appointment with a passport agency when using an online service provider. These companies have Web sites full of detailed instructions regarding the passport application and renewal process. They also include links to all required forms on their sites in order to make the process even more convenient.

Service providers of this kind take all the guesswork out of these forms for the individual by being on hand to answer any questions they may have regarding the forms or any other part of the process. These highly trained professionals have a wide knowledge base to draw from in getting this all done right. By ensuring that is done the first try, this helps to speed the process along when it comes to submitting the paperwork.

Individuals who utilize these online processing services for passport renewal will most likely only need to venture out to get their passport photos taken. The photos must be 2x2 inches in size, in color, and front view in order to be accepted for passport purposes. There are also other specifications, so check the processing companys Web site prior to sending in passport photos.

Once the application is completed, the verification documents are copied, and the photos have been taken, all that remains to be done is put everything into a package and send to the processing company via a traceable shipping method. It is important to send the information via this method because the package contains highly confidential material. The last thing passport applicants need is for their personal information to end up in the hands of a stranger.

Many people will find the online alternative much more preferable to the [passport agency](#). It is overall more convenient for those who do not live near a major metropolitan area that houses one of these offices. These pasport services can provide all the same passport services along with being faster in some cases with their turnaround time.

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