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Nowadays, there is a form for literally anything an individual may want to accomplish, particularly when regarding governmental issues. Applying for a passport is no different in this respect and depending on certain criteria, there may be a different [passport form](#) needed than just the standard application. The application, a DS-11, is the form that all applicants must fill out in order to apply for a new passport or renew one that was issued when they were under age.

Everyone has seen a [American passport](#) at some point in their life, whether it was in real life or in a movie, with its blue cover and distinctive gold seal. The standard issue passport has a life of 10 years for adults and only five years for a minor child, 16 or under, before needing renewal. The age of the applicant plays a part in which forms will be necessary when filing an application for a brand new passport.

Generally, people applying for this documentation need to make an appearance at one of the designated government facilities where they will present their passport form. Such facilities would fall under the Department of States Bureau of Consular Affairs, Office of Passport Services and Customer Service. One such facility that falls under this department is the local post office.

Those individuals who need to make an appearance at such a government facility would be applying for their first passport and those under sixteen years old. Also, anyone who acquired a passport when they were fifteen or younger and are looking to renew must make an in-person appearance. These individuals have to follow some guidelines that deal with the type of documentation they need to bring to such a facility.

This is also the case for individuals who lost their passport or had it stolen or damaged, individuals who acquired a passport over fifteen years ago, and individuals who find that the information on their passport is incorrect. All of these conditions will require an in-person appearance to fill out the Form DS-11. This form can be found online.

As well as Form DS-11, there are some other documents that an individual needs to have with them when they appear at a designated government facility. For example, an individual will need to provide evidence of U.S. citizenship. A document that would fulfill this need is a birth certificate. Individuals who need to attain a copy of their birth certificate should contact the Vital Statistics office where they were born.

Individuals that need to appear in person should gather all their documentation together and even designate a folder to put all the information in so that it will be organized and difficult to lose. Another piece of documentation that an individual needs is form of valid identification. This can be either an old passport, as long it is not damaged, or a valid drivers license. There are other documents accepted too, for those who do not have either of these.

A passport is simply a good thing to have around, as one never knows what life may throw at them. The right [passport form](#) can help an applicant sail right through the application process and having all the necessary copies handy speeds this process along even faster. Keep in mind that while the forms may be filled out prior to arrival, do not sign them beforehand as they will not be accepted and have to be redone in front of the issuing agent.

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