



TRANS-WA TRAVEL SAFETY PLAN

Trans Health & Wellness Center of WA

PRE-TRAVEL CHECKLIST

- ☐ Talk to people who have traveled to the same place recently
 - Ideally folks who you have context in common with: legal status, nationality, race, etc.
- ☐ Check laws of state/country you are visiting
 - Do not rely exclusively on laws to tell you what you are protected from, or what enforcement is like.
 - Do not rely on the US state department to provide you with the most accurate/comprehensive info.
- ☐ Memorize your emergency contact's phone number(s).
 - AND a legal support number. If detained, do not expect to have access to your phone or the internet, or this paper. If you cannot memorize the number, write it on your body in sharpie under your clothing.
- ☐ If your travel is higher risk for any reason, make a plan with your emergency contacts that includes times you will check in by,
 - AND what to do if you do not make that check in by the appointed time.
- ☐ Make sure there is more than 6 months to your passport renew date
- ☐ If financially able, book travel that is fully refundable
 - This allows you to make changes as landscape is shifting.
- ☐ Choose emergency contacts
 - Get their consent to follow your instructions
- ☐ Complete a detailed itinerary
 - Provide a copy to your emergency contacts
- ☐ Check for updates re ID documents
<https://lambdalegal.org/tgnc-checklist-under-trump/>
- ☐ Check on status of ACLU's lawsuit Orr V. Trump
<https://www.aclu.org/cases/orr-v-trump>



PRE-TRAVEL CHECKLIST

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- ☐ Set your phone to put in a password or pin
 - If facial or finger recognition, you can be compelled to open it for law enforcement, but they need a warrant if you use a password
- ☐ Make two copies of all ID documents
 - One set to take with you in your travels and one to leave with your emergency contact(s)
- ☐ Bring prescriptions in the containers they came in
 - OR if an unlabeled vial, place in the box with the prescription label.
Work with your pharmacist as needed.
- ☐ Some people consider using secondary device that has not touched sensitive data
 - OR wipe memes/posts and messages that could be determined “controversial”. More below for device security
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Emergency Contact(s) during travel:

1) Name _____ phone (____) ____-____

2) Name _____ phone (____) ____-____

3) Name _____ phone (____) ____-____



DEVICE SECURITY

- ☐ Entirely power down your device for maximum protection
 - To minimize the number of ways your device can be infiltrated during a forensic search.
- ☐ Print your travel docs
 - Using your phone as your boarding pass or passport means the device is on, unlocked, and may be taken out of your hands.
- ☐ Make sure your operating system is up to date on all devices, as well as your apps.
 - This is one of your best defenses from a forensic search.
- ☐ Pins and Passwords should to be long.
 - Minimum six digits for pins; 8-10 is better. 16 characters is the standard for alphanumeric PWs. (The latter is better than a pin if possible on your device)
 - Remember, Pins and PWs also apply to other devices, such as laptops and tablets

If you are not a US citizen and are traveling into the US:

- ☐ Wiping any social media posts that could be considered controversial is essential prep
 - Consider deactivating social media accounts temporarily if you are high risk.
- ☐ Do more than delete photos, screenshots downloaded memes or files onto your device and empty the recycle bin.
 - Use a "file shredder" app to completely delete any file and overwrite the space.
 - Some examples of file shredder apps are Secure Erase iShredder, and Sdelete. WinZip can be used on computers. Please get support from a tech professional (see resources!) if you need help.

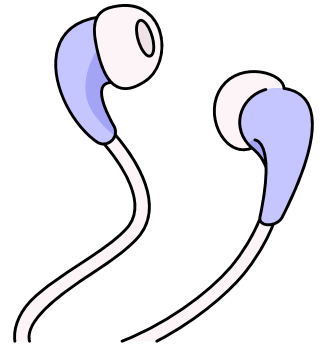
For Everyone:

- ☐ Log out of all social media accounts, emails accounts, and apps that contain sensitive data (Slack, Discord, etc.)
- ☐ Delete any sensitive apps entirely. (Email, social media, messaging, drives, etc.)
 - If needed backup your data to an end-to-end encrypted cloud storage service, or an encrypted hard drive you leave at home. You can reinstall you apps/ data when you get to your destination.
 - Note that Signal is slowly rolling out secure backups for messages at time of writing. If you do not back up your messages when you delete the app, you will lose them.
- ☐ Remove any sensitive contacts from your address book
- ☐ If you are high risk, consider removing your password manager. Only do this if you know your login credentials!
 - If you use 1Password as your password manager, you can use travel mode instead.

Who to contact if I am detained	Name	 Contact Info
Wa-State Representative	https://app.leg.wa.gov/districtfinder/	
U.S. House of Representatives	https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative	
U.S. Senator	https://www.senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm	
Local Passport Office	https://iafdb.travel.state.gov/	
Personal Lawyer		
Lawyer	Qlaw Foundation	https://www qlawfoundation.org/
Lawyer	National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR) Income-limited	(800) 528-6257 (Legal Helpline Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm PT) https://www.nclrights.org/
Lawyer	NW Justice Project Income-limited	(888) 201-1014 https://nwjustice.org/get-legal-help https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org
Lawyer	Tacoma Pro Bono	(253) 572-5134 or (888) 616-3354 10 a.m. - noon Mon-Thurs https://tacomaprobono.org



IF TRAVELING WITH A MINOR



- ☐ Passport
- ☐ Certified copy of Birth Certificate
- ☐ Certified copy of child's Name Change Court Order
- ☐ Certified copy of parent's Name Change Court Order
- ☐ Letter from any parent not present stating knowledge and approval of trip, dates and times, signature, contact
- ☐ Copy of photo ID of any parent not present
- ☐ Health Insurance card
- ☐ If no parent or guardian present, a letter giving adult in charge ability to make emergency medical decisions
- ☐ Adoption paperwork
- ☐ Copy of parenting plan
- ☐ Anything else to prove you are this child's parent



- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

TO BRING

- ☐ Passport more than 6 months to renew date
- ☐ Certified copy of Birth Certificate
- ☐ Certified copy of Name Change Court Order
- ☐ Driver's License
- ☐ Phone
- ☐ Phone charger
- ☐ Adaptor for visiting country if needed
- ☐ Spare phone battery, you don't know how long you may be detained
- ☐ Your phone should be set to put in a password or pin. If facial or finger recognition, you can be compelled to open it for law enforcement, but they need a warrant if you use a password.

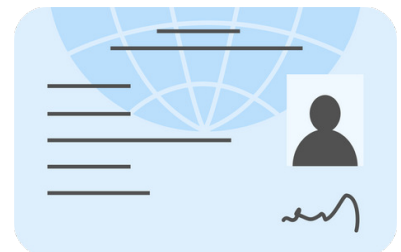


DID YOU KNOW?

Gender markers do not have to reflect what you look like. Your photo should be your likeness but doesn't have to reflect any gender or be consistent with your gender marker.

TO LEAVE WITH EMERGENCY CONTACT

- ☐ Copy of Passport
- ☐ Certified copy of Birth Certificate
- ☐ Certified copy of Name Change Court Order
- ☐ Copy of Driver's License





DEAR EMERGENCY CONTACT

Dear _____,

I would like to ask you to be my emergency contact for my upcoming trip on (date)_____to_____. Read carefully the three things I am hoping you will agree to do, and let me know if you are willing. With all the anti-trans bills, attempts to erase trans people from public life including not allowing correct genders on passports, it increases risk of unlawful detainment and harm when traveling. So, I have made a travel safety plan.

- 1) I would like you to track my whereabouts on my itinerary and check in on me.
 - 2) I would like to text you before I am approaching a checkpoint where I will be asked to produce ID. I will text you after I am safely through.
- ☐ If I do not let you know I am safely through, please try to call me on my phone, listed below.
 - ☐ If you can't get a hold of me, please try any of the phone numbers of the people and/or destinations I have provided in my itinerary.

My Info

Name _____

Name on Passport _____

Cell Phone (____) ____-____

Home address _____



3) I may call you to say “I have been detained by TSA”, or if you cannot get a hold of me and are worried about my safety, please;

☐ Call my local passport office at <https://iafdb.travel.state.gov/>

☐ Call my representatives and let them know I have been detained:

☐ Washington State Representative

Name _____

Phone _____

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/districtfinder/>

☐ United States Senator

Name _____

Phone _____

<https://www.senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm>

☐ United States House of Representatives

Name _____

Phone _____

<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

☐ Call a Lawyer; (Note, these can be hard to contact outside of business hours, so write down the name/number of an independent lawyer also)

☐ -QLaw Foundation Attorney Consultations

[https://www.qlawfoundation.org/legal-clinics/](https://www qlawfoundation.org/legal-clinics/) or call 206-235-7235.

☐ -Northwest Justice Project (Income-limited)

Call 211 in King County or 888-201-1014 outside King County

<https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org/>

☐ -National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR) (Income-limited)

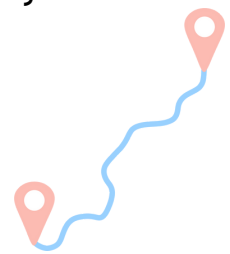
Call 800-528-6257 (Legal Helpline Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm PT)

<https://www.nclrights.org/>

☐ -Tacoma Pro Bono

Call (253) 572-5134 or (888) 616-3354 10 a.m. - noon Mon-Thurs

<https://tacomaprobono.org>



ITINERARY

DATE(s)	TIME(s)	<div><input type="checkbox"/> TSA/Boarder checkpoints</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Flight with departure and arrival times</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Layovers with lengths of time<div><input type="checkbox"/> Car rental</div></div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Place of arrival with addresses and phone numbers</div>

ITINERARY (continued)

DATE(s)	TIME(s)	<div><input type="checkbox"/> TSA/Boarder checkpoints</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Flight with departure and arrival times</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Layovers with lengths of time<div><input type="checkbox"/> Car rental</div></div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Place of arrival with addresses and phone numbers</div>

PRACTICE ASSERTING YOUR RIGHTS

if you get stopped by TSA or Border patrol

- Can you tell me why I'm being stopped?
- Am I being detained?
- Can you tell me why?
- I do not consent to you searching my bag.
- Can you tell me why you are searching my things?

*We wish this preparation wasn't needed and
We are wishing you safety in your travels!!*

Feedback/suggestions for this document is always welcome
Contact services@transwa.org

RESOURCES

Izebel, RowanTree Security & Privacy (9-26-25)

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfeFox6EQB3bFNGSNzQoMhJ1xl2nJwIELWISmNngukB1EVwhw/viewform>

Lambda Legal Know Your Rights: Passports and CRBA (2-26-25)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vlG7Jwlt45g>

Q-LAW Info Session on Passport and Other ID Documents (2-5-25)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vlG7Jwlt45g>



TRANS-WA
Trans Health & Wellness Center of WA



COULD YOU USE SUPPORT MAKING A TRAVEL SAFETY PLAN?

Contact Trans-Wa at
services@transwa.org
for a case management appointment.
We would be so happy to help you!