

Digital Image Requirements

Your photo is a vital part of your application. If the image you supply is not suitable, the system will not allow you to submit the photo. You may have to take another photo with a digital camera or modify the format to meet the minimum technical requirements. Please make sure you know how to provide a suitable photo to avoid any delays.

The acceptance of your photo is always at the discretion of the U.S. Passport Agency where you apply for your passport or at the U.S. embassy or consulate where you apply for a visa.

The digital image must adhere to the following specifications:

Dimensions	The image dimensions must be in a square aspect ratio (the height must be equal to the width). Minimum acceptable dimensions are 600 x 600 pixels. Maximum acceptable dimensions are 1200 x 1200 pixels. Please review passport and visa photo requirements for specific dimensions.
Color	The image must be in color (24 bits per pixel) in sRGB color space which is the common output for most digital cameras.
File Format	The image must be in JPEG file format
File Size	The image must be less than or equal to 240 kB (kilobytes).
Compression	The image may need to be compressed in order for it to be under the maximum file size. The compression ratio should be less than or equal to 20:1.

Want to scan an existing photo?

In addition to the digital image requirements, your existing photo must be:

- 2 x 2 inches (51 x 51 mm)
- Scanned at a resolution of 300 pixels per inch (12 pixels per millimeter)

Use the Department of State's free photo tool to:



select a digital image stored on your computer
resize and rotate it if necessary
crop it to a square image of exactly 600 x 600
pixels, and
save it to your computer for printing

This tool requires [Adobe Flash Player 10 or later](#).

While we recommend you use a professional photo service to ensure your photos meet all the requirements, you may take the photo yourself. Please remember that photos must not be digitally enhanced or altered to change your appearance in any way. The acceptance of your photo is always at the discretion of the U.S. Passport Agency where you apply for your passport or at the U.S. embassy or consulate where you apply for a visa.