

Non-U.S. Citizen Student TSA Clearance Process

If the prospective student is not a U.S. citizen or national, the following process must be completed prior to flight training. This is a process that is primarily for the purpose of verifying that the student has no criminal or undesirable background. However, you must also be aware that TSA will also review the immigration requirements for any applicant who requires a VISA to enter the country for flight training. These requirements are best determined by Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services at 800-375-5283 or www.uscis.gov or the State Department Consular Affairs Office for assistance. The AFSP will deny flight training request from candidates who are present in the United States illegally or who do not have an appropriate visa for flight training. *Fees paid for denied applications are not refundable.*

Steps:

1. The flight school or independent CFI registers as a provider with TSA by visiting https://www.flightschoolcandidates.gov/afsp2/?acct_type=p§ion=WN
2. Candidate visits www.flightschoolcandidates.gov and submits flight training request online with AFSP. Training request includes background information submitted on-line and a scanned passport, also submitted on-line. During this process, the name of the training provider and the level of training is also specified as Category 3, which pertains to flight training in aircraft less than 12,500 pounds. The course ID field must be completed with Private, Instrument, Recreational, Light Sport, or Multi Engine as appropriate.
3. After AFSP (alien flight student program) accepts the application, an email is sent to Provider requesting validation of Candidate via AFSP website.
4. After Provider validates student, the candidate is notified by e-mail and may then pay the \$130 non-refundable fingerprint processing fee.
5. After payment is confirmed, AFSP e-mails candidate fingerprint instructions. Candidate then follows fingerprint instructions and mails AFSP the fingerprints. NOTE: Fingerprints must be submitted before the fingerprint instructions are emailed or fingerprints will not be accepted. Fingerprint locations can be found at www.tsc-csc.com/printoffices/
6. AFSP e-mails both provider and candidate an e-mail confirmation that fingerprints have been received, usually within 7 days of receiving them. Flight training for Category 3 students may begin as soon as this confirmation is received.
7. A photograph must be taken of the foreign student before beginning flight training and uploaded to the www.flightschoolcandidates.gov website. A photo taken on the first day of training with a simple camera phone will suffice.
8. All training request only stay active for 365 days from the date of approval, which means training must be completed by then. Students who receive security approval from TSA are bound to complete their training with the same provider as in the original application. If the student wishes to switch providers, a new application process and fee is required. Any records required under 1552.3 must be retained for 5 years.