Global Entry Now Open to Eligible Citizens of India

The Global Entry Trusted Traveler Program has been extended to qualifying citizens of India, U.S. Customs and Border Protection has announced. India becomes the eleventh country overall whose citizens are eligible to enroll in Global Entry.

Successful applicants will benefit from expedited immigration and customs clearance when they enter the United States through a participating airport.

How to Apply for Global Entry Membership

Indian citizens interested in Global Entry membership must set up an account in GOES (CBP’s online application portal), complete an application, and pay a $100 non-refundable fee.

Applicants are subject to background checks and an in-person interview at a Global Entry Enrollment Center. Once the background check is complete, CBP will notify applicants whether or not they have been accepted into the program.

Global Entry membership is valid for five years, though a violation of program rules could result in revocation of membership privileges.

Using Global Entry

Upon arrival to the United States, Global Entry members use an automated airport kiosk to undergo customs and immigration inspection. Members scan their passports, are fingerprinted and photographed, and complete an onscreen customs declaration. If a traveler clears automated inspection, the kiosk issues a transaction receipt and directs the traveler to baggage claim. Those who do not clear automated inspection are referred to a CBP officer.

What This Means for Foreign Nationals

The long-awaited expansion of Global Entry will allow eligible Indian citizens to avoid long inspection lines and benefit from faster customs and immigration processing upon entry to the United States. They may also be eligible to be selected for expedited security screening at U.S. airports through the TSA Pre-Check program.

This alert is for informational purposes only.