

Department of State

§51.8

(c) *Period of validity of an official passport.* An official passport is normally valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue as long as the bearer maintains the official status for which it is issued. It must be returned to the Department upon the termination of the bearer's official status.

(d) *Period of validity of a diplomatic passport.* A diplomatic passport issued on or after January 1, 1977 is valid for a period of five (5) years or so long as the bearer maintains his/her diplomatic status, whichever is shorter. A diplomatic passport which has not expired must be returned to the Department upon the termination of the bearer's diplomatic status or at such other time as the Secretary shall determine. Any outstanding diplomatic passport issued before January 1, 1977 will expire effective December 31, 1977.

(e) *Period of a regular passport issued for no fee.* A regular passport for which payment of the fee has been excused is valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue unless limited by the Secretary to a shorter period.

(f) *Limitation and extension of validity.* The validity period of any passport may be limited by the Secretary to less than the normal validity period. Applications for extension of passports limited to less than the normal full validity period must be made in writing and must be submitted, with the passport, to a passport issuing Office. In no event may a passport be extended beyond the normal period of validity prescribed for such passport by paragraphs (b) through (e) of this section.

(g) *Cancellation of passport endorsed as valid only for travel to Israel.* The validity of any passport which has been issued and endorsed as valid only for travel to Israel is cancelled effective April 25, 1992. Where it is determined that its continued use is warranted, the validity of such passport may be renewed or extended for additional periods of two years upon cancellation of the Israel-only endorsement. In no event may the validity of such passport be extended beyond the normal period of validity prescribed for such passport by paragraphs (b) through (e) of this section.

(h) *Invalidity.* A United States passport is invalid whenever:

(1) The passport has been formally revoked by the Department; or

(2) The Department has registered a passport reported either in writing or by telephone to the Department of State, or in writing to a U.S. passport agency or to a diplomatic or consular post abroad as lost or stolen.

(Sec. 1, 44 Stat. 887; sec. 1, 41 Stat. 750; sec. 2, 44 Stat. 887; sec. 4, 63 Stat. 111, as amended (22 U.S.C. 211a, 214, 217a, 2658); E.O. 11295, 36 FR 10603; 3 CFR 1966-70 Comp. p. 507)

[31 FR 13540, Oct. 20, 1966, as amended at 33 FR 12042, Aug. 24, 1968; 42 FR 17869, Apr. 4, 1977; 47 FR 56329, Dec. 16, 1982; 57 FR 3282, Jan. 29, 1992; 63 FR 7285, Feb. 13, 1998; 69 FR 15670, Mar. 26, 2004]

§51.5 [Reserved]

§51.6 Mutilation and alteration of passports.

Any passport which has been materially changed in physical appearance or composition, or which includes unauthorized changes, obliterations, entries or photographs may be invalidated.

§51.7 Verification of passports.

When required by the officials of a foreign government, an American Foreign Service office may verify a U.S. passport at the request of the bearer or of the foreign government.

§51.8 Cancellation of previously issued passport.

(a) Upon applying for a new passport, an applicant shall submit for cancellation any previous passport still valid or potentially valid.

(b) If an applicant is unable to produce such a passport for cancellation, he or she shall submit a signed statement setting forth the circumstances surrounding the disposition of the passport and if it is claimed to have been lost, the efforts made to recover it. A determination will then be made whether to issue a new passport and whether such passport shall be limited as to place and periods of validity.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[31 FR 13540, Oct. 20, 1966, as amended at 31 FR 14521, Nov. 11, 1966; 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984]