

limited by the Secretary of State to a shorter period is: 10 years from date of issue if issued to an applicant age 18 or older; five years from date of issue if issued to an applicant under age 18.

(4) The period of validity of a regular passport issued prior to January 1, 1983, is five years from date of issue.

(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 of validity.* The Secretary may limit a passport's validity period to less than the normal validity period. The bearer of a limited passport may apply for a replacement passport, using the proper application, and submitting the limited passport, applicable fees, photos and additional documentation, if required, to support the issuance of a replacement passport.

(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.

(3) The Department has sent a written notice to the bearer at the bearer's last known address that the passport has been invalidated because the Department has not received the applicable fees.

(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; 70 FR 53924, Sept. 13, 2005]

#### § 51.5 [Reserved]

#### § 51.6 Damaged, mutilated or altered passport.

Any passport which has been materially changed in physical appearance or composition, or contains a damaged, defective or otherwise nonfunctioning electronic chip, or which includes unauthorized changes, obliterations, entries or photographs, or has observable wear and tear that renders it unfit for further use as a travel document may be invalidated.

[70 FR 61555, Oct. 25, 2005]

#### § 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]

**§ 51.9 Passport property of the U.S. Government.**

A passport shall at all times remain the property of the United States and shall be returned to the Government upon demand.

**Subpart B—Application**

**§ 51.20 General.**

An application for a passport, a replacement passport, extra visa pages, or other passport related service must be completed upon such forms as the Department may prescribe. The passport applicant shall truthfully answer all questions, and shall state each and every material matter of fact, pertaining to his or her eligibility for a passport. All information and evidence submitted in connection with an application shall be considered a part thereof.

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

[33 FR 12043, Aug. 24, 1968, as amended at 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984; 70 FR 53924, Sept. 13, 2005]

**§ 51.21 Execution of passport application.**

(a) *First time applicants, or persons who have not been issued a passport within the past fifteen years, and persons who are not eligible to apply for a passport under paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section.* Except as provided in § 51.27(b)(2)(i), a person who has never been issued a passport in his or her own name, or who has not been issued a passport for the full validity period of 10 years in his or her own name within

15 years of the date of a new application, or who is otherwise not eligible to apply for a passport under paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section, shall apply for a passport by appearing in person before a person authorized by the Secretary to give oaths, verify the application by oath or affirmation before that authorized person, provide two recent photographs as specified in the application, and pay the established fees.

(b) *Persons authorized by the Secretary to give oaths.* The following persons are authorized by the Secretary to give oaths for passport purposes unless withdrawn by the Secretary in an individual case:

- (1) A passport agent;
- (2) A clerk of any Federal court;
- (3) A clerk of any State court of record or a judge or clerk of any probate court;
- (4) A postal employee designated by the postmaster at a post office which has been selected to accept passport applications;
- (5) A U.S. citizen employee of the Department of Defense designated by the Secretary of Defense to accept passport applications at a military installation within the continental United States selected to accept passport applications;
- (6) A diplomatic officer, a consular officer, an overseas nationality examiner, a consular agent or a notarial officer abroad; or
- (7) Any other persons specifically designated by the Secretary.

(c) *Persons in the United States who have previously been issued a full validity passport.* A person in the United States who has been issued a passport in his or her own name may obtain a new passport by filling out and mailing a specially prescribed application together with his or her previous passport, two recent photographs as specified in the application, and the established fee to the nearest U.S. passport agency, provided:

- (1) The most recently issued previous passport was issued when the applicant was 16 years of age or older.
- (2) The application is made not more than 15 years following the issue date of the previous passport;