READY LANE INFORMATION / PASSPORT CARDS

Want to go to Mexico, but don’t want the long wait at the border to come back? Use the Ready Lane!

What is the Ready Lane?

U.S. Customs and Border Protection launched the program to enable faster crossing for those travelers with the appropriate documents.

At the Otay Mesa crossing, up to five left lanes are designated “Ready Lanes.” An electronic sign above each one will indicate whether it is open as a Ready Lane or a regular one.

Wait times are usually 30% - 40% less in comparison to the regular lanes. The border patrol has a website to monitor border time waits at http://apps.cbp.gov/bwt/ Scroll down to Otay Mesa and see the differences.

What documents can I use to enter the Ready Lane?

WHTI-compliant, RFID-enabled cards approved by the Department of Homeland Security include:

- The U.S. Passport Card
- The Enhanced Driver's License (EDL)
- Trusted Traveler Cards (NEXUS, SENTRI, Global Entry and FAST cards)
- The new Enhanced Permanent Resident Card (PRC)
- The new Border Crossing Card (BCC).

What about minor children?

Children 15 years old and younger may travel in the Ready Lane with adult travelers if all adults in the vehicle have an RFID-enabled travel card.

Where do I get a Passport Card?

Information about U.S. Passport Cards can be obtained through the following website: http://travel.state.gov/passport/ppt_card/ppt_card_3926.html Cost is $55 for first time cards and processing time is minimal.