

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**DON'T WAIT TO RENEW PASSPORTS**

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OCEAN COUNTY Clerk Scott M. Colabella is urging residents who want to apply for or renew their U.S. Passport to do so well in advance of their anticipated travel dates as a result of the high volume of applications being processed by the National Passport Center.

“The busy summer travel season typically accounts for a spike in the volume of passport applicants and the National Passport Center within the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs, is confronted with an increased workload during this time period,” Colabella said.

New applicants and renewal applicants should allow at least four to six weeks to obtain a Passport. The fee for new applicants, 16 years or older, is \$135, and the fee for new applicants under the age of 16 is \$105. The passport renewal fee for applicants 16 and older is \$110 and \$105 for applicants under the age of 16. An expedited service is available for an additional fee of \$60.

Proof of U.S. citizenship is required, such as a certified birth certificate issued by Vital Statistics with a seal and the full names of the parent(s) listed, and recording date within one year of birth or an old passport or naturalization certificate. Also required is proof of identification such as a valid driver’s license, as well as an old passport if available, and a recent professional 2" x 2" color photo which can be taken at our offices for an additional fee of \$10, or you may provide your own photo.

“The Ocean County Clerk’s staff members are authorized Passport Acceptance Agents certified by the U. S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs. They are professional, courteous and well trained in assisting our residents,” said Freeholder John P. Kelly, liaison to the County Clerk. “Applying for your passport in a timely manner will help your travel plans go more smoothly.”

Times and locations for Ocean County Clerk Passport processing services are:

- 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Ocean County Courthouse, 118 Washington St., Toms River
- 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sundays at the County Connection at the Ocean County Mall, Hooper Avenue, Toms River
- 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday at the Ocean County Clerk’s Lakewood Office at the Northern Resource Center, Fourth Street, Lakewood
- 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday at the Ocean County Southern Service Center, 179 South Main St., Manahawkin.

For specific information on the passport application process residents may call the Ocean County Clerk’s Office at 732-929-2032 or visit [www.oceancountyclerk.com](http://www.oceancountyclerk.com) on the internet.