

## The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative



### What is the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI)?

WHTI requires all citizens of the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Bermuda to have a passport or other accepted document that establishes the bearer's identity and nationality to enter or depart the United States from within the Western Hemisphere.

This change in travel document requirements is the result of recommendations made by the 9/11 Commission, which Congress subsequently passed into law in the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004. To satisfy Section 7209 of IRTPA, the documents must establish the identity and citizenship of each individual.

The principal characteristics of "other accepted documents" (upgraded ID Cards) are that they exhibit improved security versus current versions and that they include an RFID tag to assist with speed of facilitation through the border.

A video describing how this technology is used can be found at:

[www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/multimedia/video/travel\\_videos/rfid\\_enabled/](http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/multimedia/video/travel_videos/rfid_enabled/)

### How Does WHTI Affect Native Americans?

The United States has a special relationship, founded in the Constitution, with its Native American tribes. This relationship allows the federal government, where appropriate, to designate Native American members of federally recognized U.S. tribes for special treatment.

Consultations with U.S. Native American tribes have emphasized the particular impact which a new document requirement may have on Native Americans belonging to U.S. tribes who continue to cross the land borders for traditional historic, religious, and other cultural purposes.

Several of these tribes are concerned that their members will be required to obtain a passport, passport card, or alternative document to maintain contact with ethnically related communities, including, for some tribes, members who live on traditional land in Mexico or Canada.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is working closely with interested Native American tribes toward the development of an enhanced tribal card that complies with WHTI. Approval of a tribal enrollment document is confirmed via a Memorandum of Understanding between CBP and the Tribe in question.

### Where Can Interested Native American Tribes Obtain a Tribal Enrollment Document Which Fully Meets WHTI Requirements?

LaserCard Corporation is one of the leading manufacturers of secure identity credentials in North America, having supplied the U.S. Department of Homeland Security with the "Green Card" since 1997. For further

information about our Company, please see our "Corporate Overview" brief, available for download at: [www.lasercard.com/files/products-solutions/LaserCard\\_solutions\\_brief\\_Corporate.pdf](http://www.lasercard.com/files/products-solutions/LaserCard_solutions_brief_Corporate.pdf)

We supply government bodies around the world with sure identity credentials. Please see our range of Case Studies for more details at: [www.lasercard.com/customer-resources.php?key=181](http://www.lasercard.com/customer-resources.php?key=181)

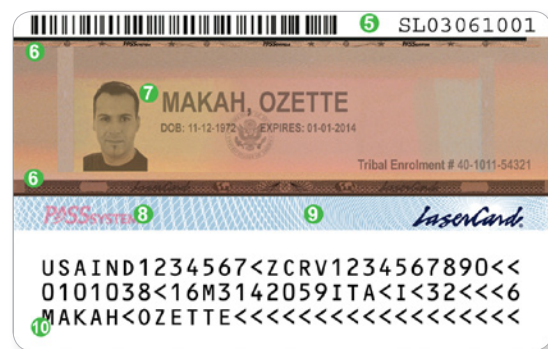
LaserCard has been supplying a WHTI-compatible ID card to the U.S. federal government since late 2008 and is fully familiar with the stringent technical requirements for such a card.

We are pleased to work with Native American Tribes to develop an enhanced tribal enrollment document and can provide specialist support in the graphical design of the card or work from a ready-made design. For further information, please see our "State of the Art Credentials" brief at:

[www.lasercard.com/files/products-solutions/LaserCard\\_solution\\_brief\\_Cards.pdf](http://www.lasercard.com/files/products-solutions/LaserCard_solution_brief_Cards.pdf)

A sample WHTI-compatible ID card is shown below with tentative design and security features:

- 1 Iris printing—also known as a split-fountain technique or rainbow printing using ink dividers located on the ink fountain
- 2 Hologram under overlay
- 3 Blue UV feature
- 4 OVI (optical variable ink)
- 5 Laser engraved serial barcode & Individual card serial number
- 6 Micro images
- 7 Embedded hologram
- 8 Red UV feature (sub-surface)
- 9 Offset (sub-surface)
- 10 Laser-engraved ICAO compliant OCR-B text



LaserCard Corporation  
1875 N. Shoreline Blvd.  
Mountain View, CA 94043 USA  
t: +1 650 969 4428  
f: +1 650 969 3140  
sales@lasercard.com  
[www.lasercard.com](http://www.lasercard.com)