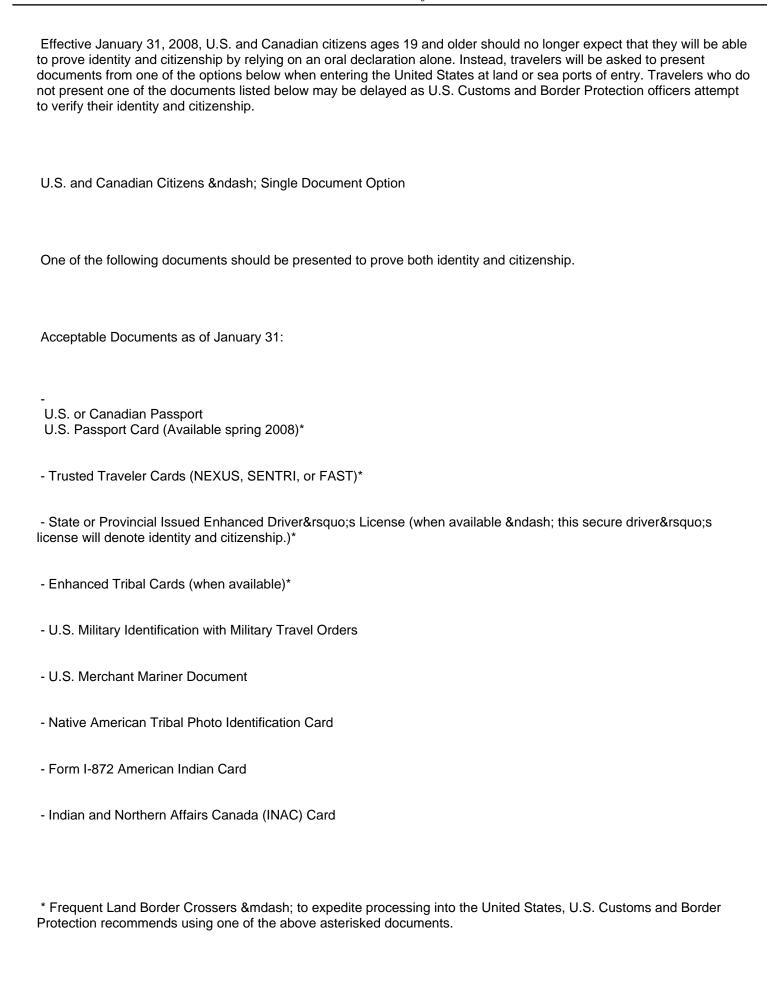
DHS: New Border Procedures Fast Approaching

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is reminding travelers that the Jan. 31, 2008 deadline is fast approaching when improved border identification procedures will be implemented. Unlike current land and sea border procedures, on Jan. 31, DHS will require travelers entering the United States through these entry points to present documents denoting citizenship and identity. A DHS release quotes Secretary Michael Chertoff on the changes: " For the safety of the American people, the United States cannot have an honor system at the border, " said Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff. & Idquo; Requiring secure and reliable documentation at our borders will drastically reduce security vulnerabilities posed by permitting entry based on oral declarations alone. As travelers become accustomed to carrying documents to cross the border, and as we move to more stringent documentation requirements, our border officers will be able to more quickly and confidently identify cross-border travelers. " In-Brief: What's Going to Happen DHS intends to end the routine practice of accepting oral declarations alone at land and sea ports of entry. On Jan. 31, 2008, U.S. and Canadian citizens will need to present either a WHTI (Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative)-compliant document or a government-issued photo ID, such as a driver's license, plus proof of citizenship, such as a birth certificate. DHS also proposes to begin alternative procedures for U.S. and Canadian children at that time. For those who have questions (many travelers surely will), DHS has put out some FAQs on these new changes. UPDATED -- Friday, January 25, 2008 at 14:05 EST

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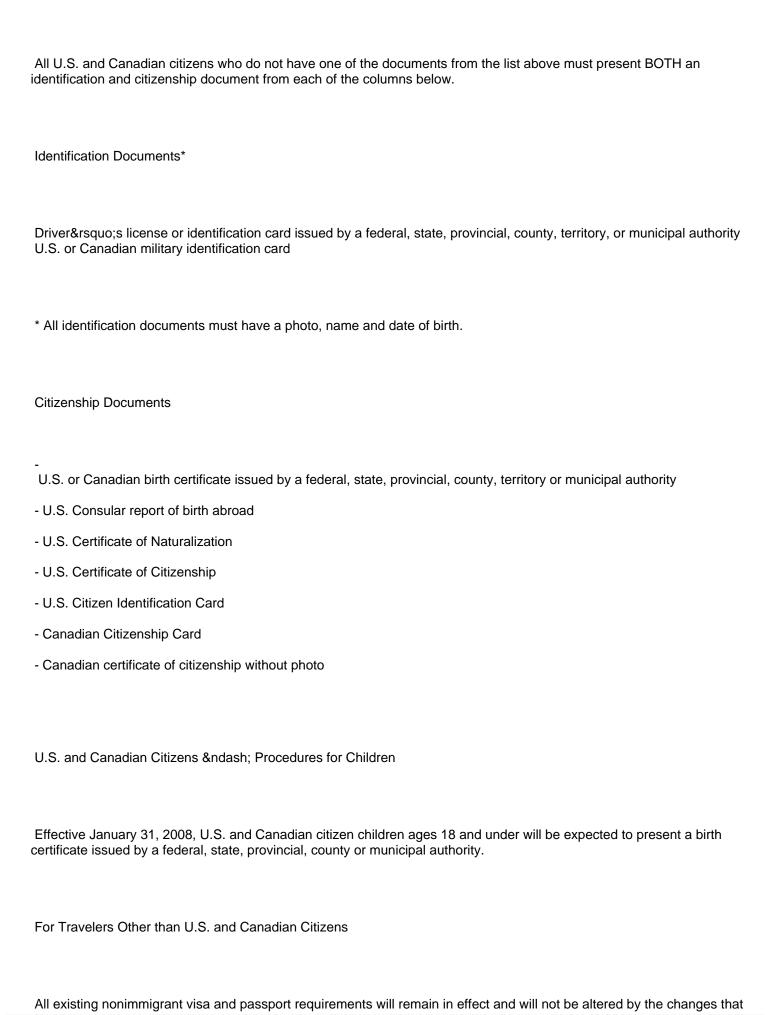
Our office just received this information from the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Office . . .

Important Change in International Land and Sea Travel Document Procedures



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U.S. and Canadian Citizens – Two Document Option



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are implemented on January 31, 2008.
U.S. Lawful Permanent Residents
Permanent Resident Card (I-551) or other valid evidence of lawful permanent residence is required.
Mexican Citizens
Mexican citizens, including children, must present a valid passport and a B-1/B-2 nonimmigrant visa or a Border Crossing Card.
Know Your Destination Country Document Requirements
It is strongly recommended that all travelers leaving the U.S. verify the specific documentary requirements for their destination country. This information is available through the Department of State website or by consulting with the Embassy of the country you are visiting to determine what documents are needed to meet the entry requirements of that country. These requirements could include a birth certificate, passport, or passport and visa for entry into that country.
Travelers who do not present one of the documents listed may be delayed as U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers attempt to verify their citizenship and identity.

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