



American Bus Association
Marketplace
Calgary | Feb 6-9, 2027

Passports, Entry, & Currency

What to know before you go

Calgary is an easy border crossing for U.S. attendees, but a few things need your attention now, well before Marketplace. Passports take time to renew. Some financial prep is worth doing early. This guide covers what to handle right away.

Passport & Entry Documents

What You Need to Enter Canada

U.S. citizens do not need a visa to enter Canada. You do need to show **proof of citizenship** and identity at the border.



- Valid U.S. passport book (required for air travel)
- Passport card (land and sea border only)
- NEXUS card (use in dedicated lanes; always carry your passport as backup)

NOT ACCEPTED FOR AIR TRAVEL



- Driver's license alone (does not prove citizenship)
- Birth certificate alone (no photo ID)
- Expired passport

Passport Validity

12+ Months

10-12 Mo.

Renew!

Canada only requires your passport to be valid through your departure date. That said, **6 or more months** of remaining validity is recommended as a buffer.



Standard Renewal:

up to 8 weeks

Expedited:

Up to 3 weeks

(Not counting mail time, check yours now.)



Flying into Calgary?

A valid U.S. passport book is required. Airlines will not board you without one.

At the Border

1

Arrive at the Border

2

Officer asks purpose

3

Say: 'attending
ABA Marketplace'

4

Have hotel +
registration handy



Don't say you're here 'for work.' Say you're a conference attendee. Word choice matters to border officers.



Have your hotel confirmation and event registration handy. You may not be asked, but it keeps things moving.

What to Bring to Marketplace

Non-Exhibiting Attendees

- ✓ Business cards and your profile sheet are all you need.

Exhibitors/Booths Holders

Detailed instructions on what you can bring and how to ship materials will be provided closer to the event.



Currency & Payments in Calgary

Registration and Housing - Different Currencies

Registration - US Dollars (USD)

- Registration fees are charged in USD
- What you see is what you pay in USD
- No conversion needed.

Housing/Hotel - Canadian Dollars (CAD)

- Hotel room rates are posted in CAD
- Credit converts at the rate on charge date
- \$250 CAD room ~ \$181 USD (as of 5/2026)

Exchange Rate

Rate as of early 2026. *Check [xe.com](https://www.xe.com) for current rate — it will shift before Feb 2027.

\$1.00 CAD = \$0.73 USD*

\$1 CAD

\$0.73 USD

Tips for Using Money in Calgary

Canada uses the Canadian Dollar. Most restaurants, shops, and services accept credit cards. Having a small amount of CAD cash on hand is useful for tips and small purchases. A few things worth knowing before you arrive:

- **Notify your bank** - Tell your bank and credit cards you're traveling to Canada before you leave. Prevents your card being flagged as fraud.
- **Choose CAD at ATMs** - When an ATM asks which currency to charge, always choose CAD. Choosing USD lets the ATM set the rate, which costs you more.
- **Use ATMs for cash** - ATMs are widely available and give good rates. Skip the airport currency exchange kiosks — they charge high fees.
- **Check for foreign fees** - Some credit cards charge 1–3% foreign transaction fees. Many travel and airline cards waive this — check yours in advance.

Key Resources

ABA Marketplace 2027 Registration: buses.org/marketplace

Canadian Border Services Agency: cbsaasfc.gc.ca

U.S. Passport Renewal: travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports.html

NEXUS Program: cbp.gov/travel/trustedtravelerprograms/nexus

Exchange Rate Reference: [xe.com](https://www.xe.com)



Early Bird deadline:
September 15. Register at
buses.org/marketplace.





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PreTrip Checklist

Do these now for an easier trip to Marketplace later.

Documents

- ☐ **Check passport expiration** — must be valid through Feb 2027; 6+ months recommended
- ☐ **Standard renewal:** up to 8 weeks · Expedited: up to 3 weeks (not counting mail time)
- ☐ **Passport card** (optional, land/sea only) · **NEXUS card** (if enrolled, bring alongside passport)
- ☐ **If traveling with a minor alone:** signed consent letter (notarization strongly recommended)



Registration & Housing

- ☐ **Register at buses.org/marketplace** — fees in USD · Early bird deadline: Sept 15
- ☐ **Book hotel through ABA housing block** — rates in CAD; divide by ~1.38 to estimate USD cost
- ☐ **Notify bank and credit cards of international travel**



What to Bring for Marketplace

- ☐ **Business cards**
- ☐ **Profile sheet**
- ☐ **Exhibitors/booth holders: detailed instructions will follow closer to the event**

Non-exhibitors: these are the only materials you may distribute



Requirements can change. buses.org/marketplace

Always verify entry requirements before you travel. cbsaasfc.gc.ca | travel.state.gov

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