

eu-LISA – EES – ETIAS Frequently Asked Questions

When will this go into effect?

- October 6th, 2024 for the Entry/Exit System (EES) and roughly 6 months later for the European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS) (expecting May 2025)

Am I required to use the eu-LISA Systems?

Some key points:

- EES and ETIAS apply to individual travelers, not just aircraft operators.
- When EES is implemented, ALL third country nationals (i.e. persons who are not nationals of one of the Schengen Member States) will have their entry and exit tracked electronically by the EES.
- When ETIAS is implemented, ALL visa-free third country nationals will require an ETIAS travel authorization regardless of what means of transportation they use.
- Aircraft operators may query the Carrier Interface to check their passengers against the EES and ETIAS systems. There is some gray area around which operators are REQUIRED to query the systems, but any operator that does query will receive a status for each passenger.
- Once these systems are implemented, the only reliable way to know if your passengers have the required authorizations is to query the Carrier Interface of eu-LISA.

Which countries will use EES and which nationalities will require ETIAS?

Countries Using EES and Nationalities that Require ETIAS

Are U.S. citizens and Canadian citizens affected?

- ETIAS requires all visa-free third country nationals to obtain an electronic travel authorization prior to traveling to the Schengen area. U.S. and Canadian nationals are among those affected.

How far in advance can my passengers be checked against the eu-LISA systems?

- Queries of the Carrier Interface are only allowed within 48 hours prior to departure.

Which travelers are in the scope of EES?

- Travelers admitted for a short stay, for no more than 90 days in any 180-day period, to the territory of the European countries that use EES.

What is the validity of an ETIAS travel authorization?

- An ETIAS travel authorization is valid for three years or until the travel document used for the application (typically a passport) expires, whichever comes first.

What do the ETIAS transition and grace periods mean?

- The ETIAS transition period is a period of six months from the date on which ETIAS starts operations. During the transition period, travelers will be allowed to enter the territory of a European country that requires ETIAS without an ETIAS travel authorization, provided they meet the other entry conditions in Article 6 of the Schengen Borders Code.
- The grace period will follow the transition period, and travelers will be allowed to enter the territory of the countries that require ETIAS without an ETIAS travel authorization, if this is their first entry during that period.

How long will the EES transition period last?

- The EES transition period is 180 days from the date EES enters operation.

Can Flight Pro International help me register?

- Yes, if you plan to query the Carrier Interface through Flight Pro International (FPI). FPI has received certification from eu-LISA for the connection of Flight Pro Connect, FPI's custom trip management system, and the eu-LISA system. There are two forms and some supporting documents we will need to provide to the eu-LISA Carriers Onboarding Team. For more information, see the following link: [Registration Process](#)

Can I query the system myself?

- Yes, there is a web portal available. However, you must be a registered operator to use it. For more information on how to register an account yourself, see the following link: <https://www.eulisa.europa.eu/About-Us/Organisation/working-group-for-carriers>

Will repositioning or augmenting flight crew be exempt from ETIAS?

- Normally, aircrew members do not need an ETIAS travel authorization or a visa when performing their duties.
- Aircrew members include cabin crew and flight crew members.
- **Aircrew members, when in performance of their duties, including traveling to take up duty, are considered out of scope of the ETIAS/EES. However, if an aircrew member does not hold a crew member certificate (CMC), as provided for in Annex 9 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation of 7 December 1944, they will be considered as regular passengers and may need an ETIAS travel authorization or a visa.**
- Please note that each Member State applies a different approach regarding the exemptions of civilian aircrew members when in the performance of their duties.
- Our recommendation is that all [visa-free third country nationals](#) obtain an ETIAS for any passport they may use to travel to Europe.