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Disabled veterans can now move through airport security checkpoints without having to remove shoes, light jackets or hats, according to a new policy announced March 27, 2013, by the Transportation Security Administration. The new policy is part of TSA's [Wounded Warrior Screening program](#), which was established in 2005 in an effort to ease the screening process for wounded service members. These individuals will be escorted through the security checkpoint and will be eligible for expedited screening through TSA Pre-Check. They also will not be required to remove their shoes, light outdoor jackets or hats when passing through security checkpoints. To be eligible for the service, a wounded warrior or traveling companion must contact the Military Severely Injured Joint Services Operations Center at MSIJSOC@dhs.gov, or 1-888-262-2396, in advance of their travel to provide itinerary information. Those traveling with injured troops or veterans must receive standard screening.

According to TSA, the number of wounded service members using the Wounded Warrior Screening Program is steadily increasing, with approximately 4,252 in 2011, 5,914 in 2012, and 3,315 since the start of 2013. TSA also offers expedited screening for service members including reservist and National Guard members at several airports across the country. The agency also supports the Honor Flight Network, which transports U.S. veterans and their escorts to Washington, D.C. area airports in order to visit the war memorials built and dedicated to honor their service.