



International Longshore and Warehouse Union

Bulletin



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HOMELAND SECURITY/TWIC PRESS RELEASE

This is a copy of a recent press release from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, identifying the schedule of Ports where it intends to begin TWIC processing through November:

WILMINGTON, Del. – On October 16, port workers, longshoremen, truckers and others at the port of Wilmington, Del., will become the first workers in the nation to enroll in the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) program. The program ensures that any individual who has unescorted access to secure areas of port facilities and vessels has received a thorough background check and is not a security threat.

The revised TWIC Rule, posted to the Federal Register on September 28, made a few minor changes to the program. One that will impact every applicant is reducing the fee for obtaining a standard TWIC by nearly \$5, which will now cost \$132.50. The credential is valid for five years and the fee is below the federal government's original estimate for the credential. The fee includes the cost of the threat assessment, program management, card production and issuance. Workers with current, comparable background checks, including a hazardous materials endorsement on a commercial driver's license, Merchant Mariner's Document or Free and Secure Trade (FAST) credential, will pay a discounted fee of \$105.25. Along with the start date for enrollment at Wilmington, Delaware, TSA and the Coast Guard also announced the next 11 ports that will begin enrolling in November. They are:

Early November:	Corpus Christi, TX
Mid-November:	Baton Rouge, LA, Beaumont, TX., Honolulu, HI., Oakland, CA., Tacoma, WA.,
Late November:	Chicago/Calumet, IL., Houston, TX., Port Arthur, TX., Providence, RI., Savannah, GA.

You'll notice that the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach are not on this list. This is because Southern California has been scheduled for a later processing date. However, this is the official beginning of the TWIC registration, and sooner or later, we will also see it here in our Ports.

Fraternally,
Mike Mitre
President

Ray Benavente
Vice President

Chris Viramontes
Secretary/Treasurer