



Advisory # 2026-A-005

Subject: Enhancements to Security Clearance Screening as a result of new US Preclearance Area Regulations

From: Airport Operations

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Effective March 9, 2026, all applications for a Transportation Security Clearance will be screened to an enhanced standard by Transport Canada. This is a result of the Government of Canada's amendments to the Preclearance in Canada Regulations to enhance the security of the Canada-US border operations at Preclearance sites. The amended regulations provide qualifications for approval for clearance to access.

Due to the complexity and scale of Preclearance/Transborder operations at Toronto Pearson, the GTAA is maintaining its position that in order to issue a Restricted Area Identity Card (RAIC) the applying individual must obtain both Access Clearance (AC) for Preclearance and Transportation Security Clearance (TSC).

All changes are facilitated through Transport Canada's Transportation Security Services (TSS) Platform:

- Employers must select TSC + AC screening requirements for applicants
- Applying employees must submit to the enhanced verification steps and requirements, which now includes a list of disqualifying criminal offences:
 - o The person has no convictions or outstanding criminal charges for offences committed in Canada:
 - in the last 5 years for offences listed in Schedule 1 and in the last 10 years for offences listed in Schedule 2 unless a record suspension has been ordered; or
 - an offence committed in the United States in the last 5 or 10 years that, if committed in Canada, would constitute an offence under the schedules.
 - o Specific requirements can be found in the regulations on the Government of Canada website: <https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2019-183/>

This enhanced standard will not be applied to existing employees who are currently approved for TSC + AC, as identified by a black Maple Leaf on the front of their YYZ RAIC, until the employee applies for their clearance renewal.