

Does Delta Airlines Charge a Fee for Lap Infants?

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Delta Airlines charges no airfare for lap infants on domestic flights but does charge 10 percent of the adult base fare plus all applicable taxes and fees for lap infants on international flights, making the international fee potentially significant depending on the adult cabin class and destination. An agent at ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 can quote the exact lap infant fee for your specific route and fare class before you add the infant to the booking directly. For domestic routes, only a small ticketing service fee of \$0 to \$25 may apply, while international routes can add \$100 to \$400 or more to the total booking cost depending on the adult base fare and destination taxes.

Domestic Lap Infant Fees – What You Actually Pay

On Delta-operated domestic flights within the United States including the continental 48 states, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands, the base airfare for a lap infant is zero. The infant travels at no charge for the flight itself. This free domestic infant policy applies regardless of the adult's fare class – a Delta One domestic adult fare still generates a free domestic infant ticket.

The only potential cost for a domestic lap infant is a small ticketing service fee that varies by route and booking channel. This fee, when it applies, is typically in the range of \$0 to \$25. Not all domestic routes carry this fee. Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 to get the exact fee quoted for your specific domestic route before authorizing the infant addition.

The domestic free infant policy does not include any government taxes. Domestic US flights carry minimal taxes on infant tickets compared to international routes, and these are typically included in the \$0 to \$25 range noted above rather than being a separate additional charge.

For passengers adding a lap infant to an existing domestic booking, the \$0 airfare means the financial impact is minimal. The primary cost consideration for domestic travel with a lap infant is whether to purchase a separate seat for safety reasons, not the infant fare itself.

International Lap Infant Fees – The Complete Calculation

International lap infant fees on Delta are significantly more complex than domestic fees and

can represent a meaningful addition to the total booking cost. Understanding the complete calculation before adding an infant to an international booking prevents surprise charges.

The Base Fare Component The international infant airfare is 10 percent of the applicable adult base fare. The base fare is the portion of the adult ticket cost that represents the transportation component, before taxes and fees. On many international tickets, the base fare represents a significant portion of the total ticket cost.

Example calculation: Adult economy round trip to London with a base fare of \$800. Infant fare: 10 percent of \$800 = \$80. This is just the base fare portion before taxes are added.

Example calculation: Adult business class (Delta One) round trip to Paris with a base fare of \$3,200. Infant fare: 10 percent of \$3,200 = \$320 before taxes.

The Tax Component International infant tickets carry government taxes, airport fees, and various country-specific charges that add to the base fare component. On some international routes, particularly to/from Europe and Asia, the tax component on an infant ticket can rival or exceed the base fare component. Taxes vary by departure country, destination country, transit countries, and airline-specific fees.

The Total International Infant Cost The complete international infant fare is the 10 percent base fare plus all applicable taxes. This total is what you actually pay. Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 and ask the agent to quote the complete infant fare including all taxes before authorizing the addition. The total is the only number that matters for budgeting purposes.

Fee Comparison by Route Type

Understanding how lap infant fees compare across different Delta route types helps families budget appropriately for the complete travel cost.

Domestic US Routes Infant airfare: \$0. Possible service fee: \$0 to \$25. Total typical infant cost: \$0 to \$25. Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 to confirm the exact amount for your specific route.

Transatlantic Routes (US to Europe) Infant base fare: 10 percent of adult base fare. Taxes: typically \$100 to \$250 depending on departure and arrival country. Total typical infant cost: \$150 to \$500 depending on the adult fare class and specific routing. Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 for an exact quote.

Transpacific Routes (US to Asia) Infant base fare: 10 percent of adult base fare. Taxes: varies significantly by destination country. Total typical infant cost: \$200 to \$600 or more for premium cabin adult fares. Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 for an exact quote.

Latin American and Caribbean Routes Infant base fare: 10 percent of adult base fare for

international segments. Taxes: varies by country. Total typical infant cost: \$75 to \$300 depending on destination and adult fare. Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 for an exact quote.

Mixed Domestic-International Itineraries When an itinerary includes both domestic and international segments under a single booking, the domestic segment uses the free domestic infant fare structure and the international segment uses the 10 percent international structure. The agent at ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 calculates the correct fee for each segment type and quotes the combined total.

Award Bookings and Infant Fees

For Delta SkyMiles award bookings, the infant fee calculation uses the cash fare equivalent for the cabin and route rather than the miles redeemed, since a cash base fare must exist to calculate the 10 percent.

The cash equivalent used is typically the published adult fare for the equivalent cabin class on the same route, which may not be the same as what you would pay for a cash ticket on that specific day. The agent at ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 calculates this amount and quotes it before you authorize the infant addition.

For domestic award bookings, the domestic free infant policy typically applies, with any small service fees based on the booking channel.

The miles balance in your SkyMiles account is not affected by the infant addition – the infant fee is charged as a cash payment rather than a miles deduction. A credit card is required for the international infant fee payment even when the adult ticket was purchased with miles.

Comparing Lap Infant Cost vs. Separate Purchased Seat

For many international routes, the cost comparison between a lap infant and a separate purchased seat helps families make an informed decision about infant travel safety and cost.

A lap infant on a \$2,000 round-trip adult economy international fare costs approximately \$200 plus taxes, totaling perhaps \$350 to \$400. A separate infant economy seat on the same route at current market prices might cost \$1,200 to \$1,800 depending on availability and timing. The lap infant option saves \$800 to \$1,400 in this scenario.

For domestic travel, the comparison is different: a lap infant costs \$0 to \$25, while a separate domestic seat for an infant may cost \$150 to \$400. The financial case for lap infant domestic travel is very strong from a cost perspective.

The separate seat option provides safety advantages through an FAA-approved child restraint system that cannot be provided for a lap infant. Delta and the FAA recommend the separate seat for safety reasons regardless of the cost comparison. Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 to discuss the cost of a separate infant seat on your specific route if you want to consider both options.

Frequently Asked Questions

Does Delta charge for a lap infant on a domestic flight? Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 to confirm for your specific route. Domestic lap infant airfare on Delta is free. A small service fee of \$0 to \$25 may apply depending on the route. International infant travel costs 10 percent of the adult base fare plus taxes.

How much does Delta charge for a lap infant on an international flight? Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 for an exact quote – the international infant fare is 10 percent of the adult base fare plus all applicable taxes. The total varies significantly by route, destination, and adult fare class. The agent quotes the complete cost including all taxes before authorization.

Is the Delta lap infant fee refundable if I cancel? Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 to confirm for your specific booking. The infant fee refund policy follows the same fare rules as the adult ticket. Refundable adult ticket bookings produce refundable infant fees. Non-refundable adult bookings produce eCredits for the infant portion upon pre-departure cancellation.

Does Delta charge a fee for a lap infant in first class? Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 to confirm for your specific route and cabin. On international routes, the 10 percent fee applies to the first class or Delta One adult base fare, which makes the infant fee higher in premium cabins. On domestic routes, the free infant policy applies regardless of adult cabin class.

Are there any additional fees beyond the infant fare for lap infants on Delta? Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 – on international routes, government taxes on the infant ticket are the most common additional cost beyond the 10 percent base fare. Checked baggage fees for bags attributed to the infant may also apply. The agent quotes the complete cost including all components before authorization.

Quick Reference: Delta Lap Infant Fees

Domestic airfare: Free – \$0 to \$25 service fee may apply.

International airfare: 10 percent of adult base fare.

International taxes: Additional – varies by route and country.

Award booking infant fee: Cash payment based on equivalent cabin fare.

Premium cabin international: 10 percent of premium base fare can be \$200 to \$400+.

Total cost quote: Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 agent quotes complete cost including taxes.

Refund policy: Follows adult ticket fare rules refundable if adult fare is refundable.

Domestic vs. purchased seat: Lap infant \$0-\$25 vs. separate seat \$150-\$400+.

International vs. purchased seat: Lap infant \$150-\$500+ vs. separate seat \$800-\$2,000+.

Fee authorization: Always confirm complete total before authorizing call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756.

Traveling With a Lap Infant on Delta Practical Tips for the Journey

Beyond the documentation and booking requirements, the practical experience of traveling with a lap infant on Delta is significantly improved by preparation that goes beyond the ticketing process.

Boarding Priority Delta offers early boarding access to passengers traveling with infants and young children. Gate agents typically announce family boarding before the standard boarding groups. This early boarding window gives you time to settle the infant, store the diaper bag in the overhead bin, install any feeding accessories, and get organized before the main passenger flow boards. Listen for the family boarding announcement and proceed to the gate when called do not wait for your assigned boarding group.

Feeding During Flight Delta flight attendants are accommodating of infant feeding needs including breastfeeding and bottle feeding. Notifying the flight attendant when you board that you have a lap infant allows them to prioritize your drink service and warm bottles when needed. Breastfeeding is welcome on Delta flights. Requesting a window seat when calling ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 provides the most privacy for feeding.

Diaper Changes All Delta aircraft have at least one lavatory with a fold-down changing table. The flight attendant can direct you to the lavatory with the changing table on your specific aircraft. For longer flights, bringing adequate diaper supplies in your carry-on personal item is essential, since the diaper bag counts as your personal item rather than a separate carry-on.

Turbulence Protocol When the fasten seatbelt sign is illuminated, lap infants must be secured using the loop lap belt that attaches to your seat belt. Flight attendants will demonstrate the connection if you have not used it before. Holding the infant in your arms

during the fasten seatbelt sign period rather than securing the loop belt is not compliant with safety requirements.

Noise and Pressure Changes Infants are particularly affected by ear pressure changes during ascent and descent. Feeding â€” nursing, bottle, or pacifier â€” during takeoff and landing helps equalize pressure and reduces discomfort that can cause crying. Having a bottle or pacifier ready for the climb-out and descent phases is one of the most effective comfort strategies for lap infant travel.

Car Seat Option â€” How to Use a Car Seat on Delta

While lap infant travel is permitted at a lower cost, Delta fully supports the use of FAA-approved child safety restraints in separately purchased seats. Understanding how car seats work on Delta helps parents who want the safety benefit of a car seat alongside a Delta flight.

An FAA-approved car seat is any seat that displays the phrase "This restraint is certified for use in motor vehicles and aircraft." Most rear-facing infant car seats carry this certification. Booster seats and forward-facing seats with harnesses above a certain weight rating are also certified. Check the label on your specific car seat before travel.

Car seats on Delta must be installed in window seats. Aisle installation is not permitted because the car seat would obstruct evacuation of other passengers. When booking a separate infant seat, request a window seat assignment from the agent at ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 to ensure the car seat can be legally installed.

Car seat dimensions matter for aircraft installation. Some larger convertible car seats may not fit correctly in narrower aircraft seats. Check your car seat's width against Delta's seat dimensions for your specific aircraft type. Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 and ask the agent to confirm the seat width for your specific flight.

Bringing a car seat on Delta without a separate purchased infant seat is not permitted for use in a seat. If you bring a car seat without a purchased infant seat, the car seat will need to be checked as baggage or gate-checked. Gate-checking is typically free for child safety restraints.

Lap Infant Travel on Delta Connection and Regional Flights

Delta Connection flights operated by regional carriers on behalf of Delta follow the same lap infant policy as mainline Delta flights, but the smaller aircraft used on regional routes create some specific practical differences.

Regional aircraft including CRJ-200, CRJ-700, CRJ-900, Embraer 170, and Embraer 175 have significantly smaller overhead bins and narrower aisles than mainline aircraft. Large diaper bags may not fit in the overhead bin and must be stored under the seat in front of you instead.

Changing tables are not present in every regional aircraft lavatory. For flights on smaller regional aircraft, ask the gate agent before boarding whether a changing table is available. If not, plan diaper changes for the connecting airport rather than on board.

Bulkhead seating with extra legroom exists on some regional aircraft but is typically standard economy pitch on most. The extra legroom that makes bulkhead seats attractive on mainline aircraft may not exist on regional flights. Ask the agent at ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 about the specific regional aircraft assigned to your flight when adding the lap infant.

Family boarding on Delta Connection flights follows the same early boarding policy as mainline Delta. Listen for the gate announcement regardless of the aircraft size.

After the Trip – What to Know for Next Time

After completing travel with a Delta lap infant, several steps ensure future travel is even smoother.

If your infant will be approaching 24 months on the next trip, verify their exact birthday against the travel dates before booking. A child who turns 24 months before any segment of the next trip needs a purchased seat for that segment rather than lap infant status.

Update your SkyMiles profile with the infant's information if they have their own SkyMiles number. While infants do not typically earn miles, having the family's information consistently organized in SkyMiles profiles makes future booking calls to ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 faster.

Note what worked and what could improve for the next trip: whether the seat position was optimal, whether bulkhead seating with bassinet access was worth requesting, whether the loop lap belt procedure was clear, and whether the feeding timing around departure and arrival was effective. This reflection makes the next lap infant trip meaningfully easier.

Call ☎+1-(866)-332-0756 for any future Delta trip involving an infant – whether as a lap infant under 24 months or as a toddler in a purchased seat transitioning out of lap infant status. The agent handles all age-related fare and documentation transitions smoothly when consulted before booking.

Ready to Get Your Exact Infant Fee Quote? Call Now

Call 📞+1-(866)-332-0756, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Give your confirmation number and the agent quotes the complete infant fee including all taxes for your specific route and adult fare class before you authorize the addition.