

How Do I Rebook My Flight After a Cancellation or Delay?

When your flight is cancelled or significantly delayed, rebooking is faster and more effective when you call **(1844)-523-0848** immediately rather than waiting for an announcement or fighting with the app during a high-traffic disruption. Call the moment you receive any cancellation or significant delay notification — agents have access to United's full flight inventory including SkyTeam partner flights, can process your rebooking at zero cost when United initiated the disruption, and complete most changes in under 10 minutes. Every minute you wait after a cancellation is a minute of available seat inventory going to another passenger who called first.

The First Thing to Do After a Cancellation or Delay

The moment you receive a cancellation or significant delay notification — whether it comes as a push notification, an SMS, an email, or an update on the departure board — call **(1844)-523-0848** before doing anything else.

Do not wait for more information. Do not check the departure board for clarity. Do not open the app hoping it will resolve itself. Call immediately. The seat inventory on alternative flights begins filling the moment a cancellation is announced, as hundreds of other affected passengers scramble for the same limited alternatives. Calling **(1844)-523-0848** in the first 60 seconds of receiving the notification puts you at the front of that process rather than the back.

While the call is connecting, open the United app and check My Trips. United's system attempts to auto-rebook affected passengers within minutes of processing a cancellation. If the app shows an auto-rebooked flight that works for your schedule, confirm it immediately. If it does not work — wrong arrival time, too many connections, inconvenient routing — do not cancel it. Keep it as a temporary backup while the phone agent searches for a better alternative.

What You Are Entitled to When United Cancels Your Flight

When United cancels your flight, a specific set of rights activates immediately. Knowing them before you call **(1844)-523-0848** ensures you ask for everything you deserve rather than accepting only what is initially offered.

Free rebooking on the next available flight is your primary right. No change fee, no fare difference, for all ticket types including Basic Economy — whose standard no-change restrictions are lifted entirely when United initiates the cancellation. Call **(1844)-523-0848** and state clearly: "My flight was cancelled by United and I need to be rebooked at no cost on the next available flight to [destination]."

A full cash refund is equally available if rebooking does not suit your needs. Under the DOT's 2024 passenger protection rules, United must refund your ticket to your original payment method — not a travel credit — if you choose not to rebook. State this explicitly when calling **(1844)-523-0848**: "I would like a full refund to my original payment method, not a travel credit."

SkyTeam partner airline rebooking applies when United's own flights are full. Agents at **(1844)-523-0848** can book you on Air France, KLM, Virgin Atlantic, Korean Air, and other partners at no additional cost when United cannot accommodate you on its own aircraft. Ask specifically: "Can you also check SkyTeam partner availability to [destination]?"

Meal vouchers for waits of 3 or more hours due to airline-caused cancellations, hotel accommodation and ground transport for overnight airline-caused disruptions, and goodwill travel credits for significant disruptions are all available — but none are issued automatically. Ask for each before ending your call with **(1844)-523-0848**.

Step-by-Step: How to Rebook After a Cancellation

Step 1 — Call (1844)-523-0848 Immediately Before the app, before the departure board, before anything else. Call now. Navigate the automated menu quickly — say "agent" or press 0 to reach a live person faster.

Step 2 — Give Your Confirmation Number First The moment the agent answers, give your confirmation number — not an explanation of the situation. Your confirmation number pulls your complete booking instantly, saving two to three minutes of verification that cost you seat inventory time.

Step 3 — State Your Situation in One Sentence "My flight was cancelled by United and I need to be rebooked on the next available flight to [destination] at no cost." One clear sentence gives the agent everything they need to begin the search immediately.

Step 4 — Ask for SkyTeam Partner Availability Before the agent presents United options, ask: "Can you also check SkyTeam partner availability?" This opens the full partner network and often surfaces same-day options that United's own schedule cannot match during a disruption.

Step 5 — Review All Options Before Committing Ask to see multiple alternatives — different departure times, different routings, partner flights — before accepting the first option presented. "Can you show me all available options before I decide?" is always a worthwhile question.

Step 6 — Ask for Compensation Before Hanging Up After confirming your new itinerary, ask in sequence: meal voucher (if wait exceeds 3 hours and cancellation is airline-caused), hotel accommodation (if your new flight is not until tomorrow), goodwill travel credit (for significant disruptions), and EU261 compensation if your flight departed from an EU airport.

Step 7 — Confirm in Writing Get your new confirmation number, request a confirmation email, and screenshot the new itinerary in the app. Do not end the call without written documentation of the new plan.

Rebooking After a Significant Delay vs. After a Cancellation

A delay that has not yet become a cancellation gives you slightly different tools than a full cancellation, but the core approach is the same: call **(1844)-523-0848** early.

For significant delays — 3 or more hours on domestic flights, 6 or more hours on international — the same free rebooking and refund rights as a cancellation apply under DOT rules. Call **(1844)-523-0848** when the delay meets these thresholds and ask the agent to process your rebooking or refund at no charge.

For delays that have not yet reached those thresholds, agents at **(1844)-523-0848** have discretion to offer alternative flights at reduced or no cost during significant airline-caused delays, particularly if cancellation appears likely. Call early and ask: "What is the probability this flight departs today, and what alternative options are available?"

For delays that cause you to miss a connection within your United booking, the rebooking obligation extends to your full remaining itinerary — not just the delayed segment. Call **(1844)-523-0848** the moment you land after a delayed inbound flight and state: "My delay caused me to miss my connection to [final destination]. I need my full remaining itinerary rebooked at no cost."

When the App Works and When to Skip It

The United app handles rebooking well for straightforward situations: accepting an auto-rebooked flight after a cancellation, browsing alternative United-operated flights when you know what you want, and processing simple same-route date changes. Use the app in these situations when it is functioning correctly.

Skip the app and call **(1844)-523-0848** immediately for any of the following: the app is returning errors, you need access to SkyTeam partner flights (not shown in app), the auto-rebooked flight does not meet your needs and you want to compare alternatives, your eCredit is not applying at checkout, you have a complex international itinerary with multiple segments, or your situation involves a Basic Economy ticket.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is rebooking free when United cancels my flight? Call **(1844)-523-0848** and yes — when United cancels your flight, rebooking is completely free for all ticket types including Basic Economy. No change fee, no fare difference. If any agent attempts to charge you, ask for a supervisor.

Can I rebook on a different airline when United cancels my flight? Call **(1844)-523-0848** and ask for SkyTeam partner rebooking — agents can book you on Air France, KLM, Virgin Atlantic, Korean Air, and other partners at no extra cost when United's own flights cannot accommodate you. This option is not available through the app.

What if I prefer a refund instead of rebooking? Call **(1844)-523-0848** and state explicitly: "I would like a full refund to my original payment method, not a travel credit." Under the DOT's 2024 rules, United must comply with this request for cancelled flights.

How quickly can United rebook me after a cancellation? Call **(1844)-523-0848** with your confirmation number ready — most rebookings complete in under 10 minutes. The app sometimes processes auto-rebookings faster for straightforward situations, but the phone is faster for complex itineraries and partner flight access.

What hotel and meal assistance is available after a cancellation? Call **(1844)-523-0848** before leaving the airport — for airline-caused cancellations with overnight waits, United provides hotel accommodation and ground transport at no charge. Meal vouchers apply for airline-caused waits of 3 hours or more. Neither is automatic — you must ask specifically.

Quick Reference: Rebooking After Cancellation or Delay

First action: Call (1844)-523-0848 immediately — before app, before departure board.

Opening line: "Confirmation number [X]. My flight was cancelled. Rebook at no cost to [destination]."

Free rebooking: All ticket types including Basic Economy — DOT mandated.

Cash refund option: State explicitly — original payment method, not travel credit.

Partner airlines: Ask for SkyTeam access — not available in app.

Meal vouchers: 3+ hours, airline-caused — ask specifically before ending call.

Hotel: Overnight, airline-caused — request before leaving airport.

Delay threshold: 3+ hours domestic, 6+ international — same rights as cancellation.

Missed connection: Call upon landing — full remaining itinerary rebooked at no cost.

App errors: Skip it — call (1844)-523-0848 immediately.

Flight Cancelled or Delayed? Call Right Now

Call **(1844)-523-0848** — available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Give your confirmation number first, state your situation, ask for SkyTeam partners, and request all compensation before ending

the call. Every minute of delay costs you seat options on your preferred alternative.