PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

What is a photo ID & why do I need it?
Not only does a photo help us spot you when we meet at the airport, but for many programs we need photo identification to prepare important documents like visa paperwork and transportation cards. This is why it’s so critical that you upload a useable photo as early as possible!

Where do I have my picture taken?
You can take this photo yourself on a camera or smartphone, but be sure that you are following all the requirements if you choose to do it this way! Have a friend or parent take the photo for you against a white wall, and make sure you have a way to crop it to a square, 600x600 pixel photo format.

Another option is to go to a store that offers a passport photo service like CVS, Walgreens, or Walmart. They will charge a small fee, but they know exactly what is required so you can be sure you’re uploading a correct photo.

Qualities of a good ID photo:
- On a plain, white background
- Taken within the last 6 months so it reflects your current appearance
- From the shoulders up, facing the camera directly
- With a neutral expression or smile, with both eyes open
- At least 800x800 pixels large

What we do NOT want:
- A selfie or glamour shot
- A Snapchat or Instagram picture
- A scan of the picture on your passport
- A photo taken outside or on a colored backdrop
- A photo of you with a friend
- A photo where your face is partially hidden by a hat or sunglasses
- A dark or low-quality image