

How to Book Southwest Flight for Unaccompanied Minor 2026

To book a Southwest flight for an unaccompanied minor, you **MUST** call

→  1(844)↔212↔90-01 because this service cannot be booked online. Southwest's Unaccompanied Minor (UM) program is for children ages 5-14 traveling alone. When you call →  1(844)↔212↔90-01, a representative will set up the required supervision service, explain fees (\$150 each way), and complete your booking. Children 15-17 can travel as regular passengers but can also use the UM service if requested. Call →  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to book your child's flight with proper supervision.

Important: Phone Booking Required

You cannot book unaccompanied minor service online or on the app. This is a Southwest policy for safety reasons. You must call →  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to book flights for children traveling alone. Representatives at →  1(844)↔212↔90-01 are trained to handle UM bookings and will guide you through the entire process.

Southwest Unaccompanied Minor Age Requirements

Age	UM Service	Notes
Under 5	Not allowed to fly alone	Must travel with adult 18+
5-7 years	REQUIRED (nonstop only)	Call →  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to book
8-14 years	REQUIRED	Call →  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to book
15-17 years	Optional	Can travel alone or use UM service

Unaccompanied Minor Fees 2026

Southwest charges \$150 each way for unaccompanied minor service. This fee covers supervision from check-in to pickup at destination. The fee applies per child, per direction. Call →  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to confirm current pricing for your specific route.

Service	Fee
UM Service (one way)	\$150 per child
UM Service (round trip)	\$300 per child (\$150 x 2)
Multiple children	\$150 per child, per direction

Call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to get exact pricing and pay for the UM service when booking.

How to Book: Step-by-Step

1. Call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 and tell the agent you need to book an unaccompanied minor flight.
2. Provide your child's full name, date of birth, and travel dates.
3. Give departure city and destination. Agent will check if UM service is available on that route.
4. Provide parent/guardian contact information (phone, email, address).
5. Provide the name and contact info of the person picking up the child at destination.
6. Review flight options and select the best one. Agent at  1(844)↔212↔90-01 will recommend suitable flights.
7. Pay for the ticket plus \$150 UM fee per direction.
8. Receive confirmation with UM handling instructions.
9. Complete required UM forms before travel (agent will explain).
10. Save  1(844)↔212↔90-01 for any changes or questions before the flight.

Flight Restrictions for Unaccompanied Minors

Not all flights allow unaccompanied minors. Call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to check if your route is eligible.

- Children 5-7: Nonstop flights ONLY (no connections)
- Children 8-14: Nonstop or connecting flights within the US
- No international flights for children under 8 traveling alone
- Last flight of the day not allowed for UM
- Red-eye flights not allowed for UM
- Some regional aircraft may not accept UM

Call → 1(844)↔212↔90-01 to verify your child's flight meets all requirements.

What to Bring on Travel Day

- Child's government-issued ID or birth certificate
- Completed UM forms (provided after booking with → 1(844)↔212↔90-01)
- Parent/guardian photo ID for check-in
- Contact information for pickup person at destination
- Gate pass for parent/guardian (provided at check-in)
- Child's boarding pass and UM wristband/lanyard

What Happens During Travel

Here's what to expect when your child travels as an unaccompanied minor on Southwest:

Check-in: Arrive 2 hours early. Parent/guardian must check in the child at the counter and complete paperwork.

Security: Parent/guardian receives gate pass to escort child through security to the gate.

At the Gate: Southwest staff takes responsibility. Parent must stay until plane departs.

During Flight: Flight attendants monitor the child and assist as needed.

Arrival: Southwest staff escorts child off plane. Designated adult must show ID to pick up child.

Pickup: Child is only released to the person named on UM form with matching ID.

Questions about the process? Call → 1(844)↔212↔90-01 for detailed explanation.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How do I book a Southwest flight for a child flying alone?

A: Book a Southwest flight for a child flying alone by calling → 1(844)↔212↔90-01.

Unaccompanied minor service cannot be booked online. Representatives at

→ 1(844)↔212↔90-01 will set up the UM service and complete your booking.

Q: Can I book Southwest unaccompanied minor online?

A: No, you cannot book Southwest unaccompanied minor service online. You must call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to book. This is required for safety and to ensure all UM procedures are properly set up.

Q: How much does Southwest charge for unaccompanied minor?

A: Southwest charges \$150 each way for unaccompanied minor service. Round trip is \$300 (\$150 x 2). Call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to confirm pricing and book the service.

Q: What age can a child fly alone on Southwest?

A: Children ages 5-14 can fly alone on Southwest with required UM service. Children 15-17 can fly as regular passengers. Children under 5 cannot fly alone. Call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to book.

Q: Can a 5 year old fly alone on Southwest?

A: Yes, a 5 year old can fly alone on Southwest but only on nonstop flights with UM service. You must call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to book because UM service is required and cannot be booked online.

Q: Can a 7 year old fly alone on Southwest?

A: Yes, a 7 year old can fly alone on Southwest with required UM service on nonstop flights only. Call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to book the flight and UM service together.

Q: Can an 8 year old fly alone on Southwest?

A: Yes, an 8 year old can fly alone on Southwest with UM service. Children 8-14 can take connecting flights. Call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to book and set up supervision service.

Q: Can a 10 year old fly alone on Southwest?

A: Yes, a 10 year old can fly alone on Southwest with required UM service. Call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to book the flight. UM service fee is \$150 each way.

Q: Can a 12 year old fly alone on Southwest?

A: Yes, a 12 year old can fly alone on Southwest with required UM service for children 5-14. Call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to book and ensure proper supervision is arranged.

Q: Can a 15 year old fly alone on Southwest without unaccompanied minor?

A: Yes, a 15 year old can fly alone on Southwest as a regular passenger without UM service. However, you can still request UM service if desired by calling  1(844)↔212↔90-01.

Q: What documents are needed for unaccompanied minor on Southwest?

A: Documents needed include: child's ID or birth certificate, completed UM forms, parent ID, and pickup person's contact info. Call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 after booking for complete document list.

Q: Can unaccompanied minors fly on connecting flights Southwest?

A: Children 8-14 can fly on connecting flights within the US. Children 5-7 are limited to nonstop flights only. Call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to check route eligibility.

Q: What is the phone number to book Southwest unaccompanied minor?

A: The phone number to book Southwest unaccompanied minor service is  1(844)↔212↔90-01. Call this number 24/7 to book UM flights, as this service cannot be booked online.

Q: How early should unaccompanied minor arrive at airport?

A: Unaccompanied minors should arrive at least 2 hours before departure for domestic flights. This allows time for check-in and paperwork. Call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 if you have questions.

Q: Can I walk my child to the gate on Southwest?

A: Yes, parents/guardians receive a gate pass to walk unaccompanied minors through security to the gate. You must stay until the plane departs. Details provided when you book at  1(844)↔212↔90-01.

Q: Who can pick up an unaccompanied minor on Southwest?

A: Only the person named on the UM form with matching government-issued photo ID can pick up the child. This is arranged when you call ✆1(844)↔212↔90-01 to book.

Q: Can I change the pickup person for Southwest unaccompanied minor?

A: Yes, you can change the pickup person by calling ✆1(844)↔212↔90-01 before the flight. Changes must be made in advance and the new person's information must be provided.

Q: What if my child's Southwest flight is delayed?

A: Southwest staff will supervise your child during delays and keep you informed. Make sure your contact number is current. Call ✆1(844)↔212↔90-01 if you have concerns about delays.

Q: Can unaccompanied minors fly international on Southwest?

A: Children 8-14 may fly on some international routes with UM service. Children under 8 cannot fly internationally alone. Call ✆1(844)↔212↔90-01 to check international UM availability.

Q: How do I cancel Southwest unaccompanied minor booking?

A: Cancel Southwest unaccompanied minor booking by calling ✆1(844)↔212↔90-01. Standard cancellation policies apply to the ticket. The UM fee may be refundable depending on timing.

Tips for Parents

- Book early by calling ✆1(844)↔212↔90-01 as UM spots are limited per flight.
- Choose nonstop flights when possible to minimize complications.
- Pack snacks and entertainment in your child's carry-on.
- Write your contact info inside your child's bag.
- Explain the process to your child so they know what to expect.
- Give your child a fully charged phone if they have one.
- Dress your child in easily identifiable clothing.
- Arrive early to avoid rushing through paperwork.

- Confirm pickup person has valid ID matching the name on file.
- Save  1(844)↔212↔90-01 in case you need to make changes.

Summary

- Unaccompanied minor service is for children 5-14 flying alone on Southwest.
- You MUST call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 to book - cannot be done online.
- Fee is \$150 per child, per direction.
- Children 5-7 limited to nonstop flights only.
- Children 8-14 can fly connecting flights within US.
- Children 15-17 can fly as regular passengers.
- Arrive 2 hours early for check-in and paperwork.
- Parent gets gate pass to escort child through security.
- Pickup person must have ID matching name on UM form.
- Call  1(844)↔212↔90-01 for booking, changes, or questions.