Run For Your Life

Zombie run takes over with apocolyptic craze in healthy way

by michael scott

sk some frequent fliers about the Transportation Security Administration's PreCheck program, and their eyes widen and their breath quickens. Well, at least mine do—Pre-Check, the TSA's expedited security-check service, has radically changed how I travel, for the better. It's about to do so for a lot more people.

Until last week, admission to the program—which includes a dedicated, shorter line at security, plus more convenient screening practices that let you keep on your jacket, belt, and shoes—was limited. Airlines were able to invite certain high-mileage fliers into the program; it was also included in Global Entry, the Customs and Border Protection program that lets participants skip the long lines at passport control when you return to the U.S.

Starting in the fall, there will be a new way to get into PreCheck. For \$85 and a trip to a TSA office for fingerprinting, anyone who passes the background check gets the VIP treatment. It's a slow rollout. Only two enrollment centers have been announced—Dulles International Airport and Indianapolis International Airport—but more are expected in subsequent months.

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Of course the TSA wants more people in the program. Opening enrollment to a wider group means fewer people who require the regular, full security check (thrilling as it may be). That reduces the burden on TSA staff. It also means more revenue for the agency.



