

Comparison of Airline Elite Status (Bottom Tier)	United Airlines	US Airways	American Airlines	Delta Air Lines	Alaska Airlines
	Premier Silver	Silver Preferred	AAdvantage Gold	Silver Medallion	MVP
Elite Qualifying Miles Required	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	20,000*
...or Segments	30	30	30	30	30
Free Checked Bags	1 (50 lbs)	1 (50 lbs)	2 (50 lbs)	1 (70 lbs)	2 (50 lbs)
# of People	You + 8	You + 1	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8
Preferred Seating	Free at check-in	Free at booking	Free at booking	Discounted at	Free at booking
# of People	You + 1	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8
Section with Extra Legroom	Yes	No	Yes (intl. only)	Yes	No
Bonus on Redeemable Miles	25%	25%	25%	25%	50%
Elite Check-in	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Elite Security	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Elite Boarding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Free Domestic Upgrades	Unlimited	Unlimited	500-mile vouchers	Unlimited	Unlimited
Companion Domestic Upgrades	Unlimited	Unlimited	500-mile vouchers	Unlimited	No
International Upgrades	No	No	No	No	Yes (few routes)
Free Drinks in Economy?	No	No	No	No	No
Phone Booking Fee	\$25	\$30***	\$25	\$25	\$15-25
Same Day Change Fee	\$75	No	\$75	\$50	\$25
Same Day Standby Fee	\$75	No	No	\$50	No
Close-in Award Booking Fee	\$50	\$75	No	No	No
Award Change Fee	\$50	\$150	\$150	\$150**	\$75-100
Award Redeposit Fee	\$125	\$150	\$150	\$150**	\$75-100

*Alaska Airlines requires 25K miles if you include credit from flights with airline partners. Status includes benefits on AA and DL.

**Delta Air Lines does not allow changes or cancellations less than 72 hours before departure.

***US Airways also charges \$30-40 for ALL awards ticketed by phone.

Comparison of Airline Elite Status (Mid Tier)	United Airlines	US Airways	American Airlines	Delta Air Lines	Alaska Airlines
	Premier Gold	Gold Preferred	AAdvantage Platinum	Gold Medallion	MVP Gold
Elite Qualifying Miles Required	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	40,000*
...or Segments	60	60	60	60	60
Free Checked Bags	3 (70 lbs)	3 (50 lbs)	2 (50 lbs)	2 (70 lbs)	2 (50 lbs)
# of People	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8
Preferred Seating	Free at booking	Free at booking	Free at booking	Free at booking	Free at booking
# of People	You + 1	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8
Section with Extra Legroom	Yes	No	Yes (intl. only)	Yes	No
Bonus on Redeemable Miles	50%	50%	100%	100%	100%
Elite Check-in	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Elite Security	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Elite Boarding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Free Domestic Upgrades	Unlimited	Unlimited	500-mile vouchers	Unlimited	Unlimited
Companion Domestic Upgrades	Unlimited	Unlimited	500-mile vouchers	Unlimited	Unlimited***
International Upgrades	No	No	No	No	Yes (few routes)
Free Drinks in Economy?	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Phone Booking Fee	\$25	No****	\$25	No	No
Same Day Change Fee	No	No	\$75	No	No
Same Day Standby Fee	No	No	No	No	No
Close-in Award Booking Fee	\$25	No	No	No	No
Award Change Fee	\$25	\$150	\$150	\$150**	No
Award Redeposit Fee	\$100	\$150	\$150	\$150**	No***

*Alaska Airlines requires 50K miles if you include credit from flights with airline partners. Status includes benefits on AA and DL.

**Delta Air Lines does not allow changes or cancellations less than 72 hours before departure.

***Alaska Airlines also waives cancellation fees on revenue (paid) tickets and provides Guest Upgrades for those not with you.

****US Airways also charges \$30-40 for ALL awards ticketed by phone.

Comparison of Airline Elite Status (Top Tier)	United Airlines		US Airways	
	Premier Platinum	Premier 1K	Platinum Preferred	Chairman's Preferred
Elite Qualifying Miles Required	75,000	100,000	75,000	100,000
...or Segments	90	120	90	120
Free Checked Bags	3 (70 lbs)	3 (70 lbs)	3 (50 lbs)	3 (50 lbs)
# of People	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8
Preferred Seating	Free at booking	Free at booking	Free at booking	Free at booking
# of People	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8
Section with Extra Legroom	Yes	Yes	No	No
Bonus on Redeemable Miles	75%	100%	75%	100%
Elite Check-in	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Elite Security	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Elite Boarding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Free Domestic Upgrades	Unlimited + 2 vouch.	Unlimited + 4 vouch.	Unlimited	Unlimited
Companion Domestic Upgrades	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
International Upgrades	No	6 (some fares)	No	4 (w/ companion)
Free Drinks in Economy?	Limited coupons	Limited coupons	No	No
Phone Booking Fee	No	No	No*****	No
Same Day Change Fee	No	No	No	No
Same Day Standby Fee	No	No	No	No
Close-in Award Booking Fee	No	No	No	No
Award Change Fee	No	No	\$150	No
Award Redeposit Fee	No	No	\$150	No
Other Benefits	Free Global Entry and a \$60 statement credit on each co-branded credit card for Premier 1Ks		Special Dividends include upgrades on awards and Silver Preferred status for a friend at 85K.	

*Alaska Airlines requires 90K miles if you include credit from flights with airline partners. Status includes benefits on AA and DL.

**Delta Air Lines offers international upgrade certificates as a Choice Benefit, but their use is heavily restricted.

***Delta Air Lines does not allow changes or cancellations less than 72 hours before departure.

Comparison of Airline Elite Status (Top Tier)	American Airlines	Delta Air Lines		Alaska Airlines
	AAdvantage Exec. Platinum	Platinum Medallion	Diamond Medallion	MVP Gold 75
Elite Qualifying Miles Required	100,000	75,000	125,000	75,000*
...or Segments	100	100	140	90
Free Checked Bags	2 (50 lbs)	2 (70 lbs)	2 (70 lbs)	2 (50 lbs)
# of People	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8
Preferred Seating	Free at booking	Free at booking	Free at booking	Free at booking
# of People	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8
Section with Extra Legroom	Yes (intl. only)	Yes	Yes	No
Bonus on Redeemable Miles	100%	100%	125%	100%
Elite Check-in	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Elite Security	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Elite Boarding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Free Domestic Upgrades	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Companion Domestic Upgrades	500-mile vouchers	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited****
International Upgrades	8 (all fares)	4 (full fares)**	10 (full fares)**	Yes (few routes)
Free Drinks in Economy?	Yes, plus snack	Yes	Yes	Yes, plus TV
Phone Booking Fee	No	No	No	No
Same Day Change Fee	No	No	No	No
Same Day Standby Fee	No	No	No	No
Close-in Award Booking Fee	No	No	No	No
Award Change Fee	No	No***	No***	No
Award Redeposit Fee	No	No***	No***	No****
Other Benefits		Choice Benefits at 75K & 125K, plus Diamond Medallions get free SkyClub membership		

****Alaska Airlines also waives cancellation fees on revenue (paid) tickets and provides Guest Upgrades for those not with you.

*****US Airways still charges \$30-40 for ALL awards ticketed by phone (except Chairman's)