PDF vs PDF/A

Rule of thumb for e-Gov: **PDF/A-2b** and **≤ 2 MB** per file.

PDF/A-2b | ≤ 2 MB | On-device (offline)

Regular PDF

- May include **password/scripts**
- **Non-embedded fonts** (variable appearance)
- Active forms/annotations
- Not size-optimized

PDF/A (Archive)

- **No encryption/scripts**; forms **flattened**
- **Embedded fonts** & metadata
- Stable, predictable appearance

What PDF Ready does

- **100% on your device**: nothing is uploaded to servers
- Converts to **PDF/A-2b** and **validates** (pre-flight **IRCC/CEAC/USPTO**)
- **Compresses to ≤ 2 MB** (or your selected limit)
- Flattens forms and removes password
- Merges into **one upload-ready PDF** and generates a **Pass/Fail report**

Note: Requirements may change; we link official sources and check date in Help. *We can't guarantee third-party acceptance.*