**2026-27**

**Calendar Year Big Bend National Park CUA Application Checklist**

(Updated 9/30/2025)

(The CUA Application Checklist MUST be submitted with Application)

All application materials must be submitted electronically through the **NPS Online Application and Reporting System**. All additional forms are available at ([Commercial Use Authorization - Big Bend National Park (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov)](https://home.nps.gov/bibe/learn/management/cua.htm))

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Completed CUA Application** & Application Fee via NPS Online Application

and Reporting System (Form 10-550). See instructions in application.

You may only apply for one activity per application.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **General Liability Certificate of Insurance**

* Must meet minimum ($500,000) listed in CUA Application (Attachment A) and have “United States of America, Big Bend National Park” listed as an Additional Insured. High risk activities may require a higher liability minimum as determined by the park ($1,000,000 for Boat Tours).

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Automobile Liability Certificate of Insurance** (if applicable)

(**rental vehicles must be covered under commercial auto liability)**

* If you transport clients, you must provide proof of automobile liability
* Must meet minimums described in CUA Application (Attachment A) and have “United States of America, Big Bend National Park” listed as an Additional Insured. Minimum $1,500,000-up to 15 passengers, 16+ is $5,000,000.
* Include vehicle year, make/model, state issued, passenger capacity and whether it is owned, rented, or leased.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Itinerary** (required of ALL Outfitters conducting 20 or fewer trips per year)

* Include proposed dates in the park and intended locations that will be visited inside the park boundaries. (Attachment C)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Safety Documentation**

Copy of **safety information delivered to guests** on trip with information specific to Big Bend National Park. We also require proof of all training and vehicle license documents listed upon request. All documentation must be **on file** with the CUA holder (Attachment E). Permit may be suspended or revoked without proper documentation.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Acknowledgement of Risk Form**

* Provide an ‘Acknowledgement of Risk’ form or other participation forms guests are required to sign that involve legal rights and authorities. Refer to NPS form 10-550 (Attachment D).
* **Note: NPS does not allow CUA holders to request or require visitors to sign a waiver of liability statement, insurance disclaimer, and/or indemnification agreement for travel inside park boundaries**.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **CUA Annual Report**

* If you held a previous Big Bend National Park CUA (operated in 2024 with submission due 2025), your Annual Report must be on file and paid (if applicable) before a 2026-27 permit will be issued. If you currently hold a 2025 CUA (valid until Dec. 31, 2025), your Annual Report is due by January 31, 2026 and Management Fee paid by February 28, 2026 or permit may be suspended.
* While the two-year permit allows a CUA to operate for up to two years under one application, an annual report and management fee are still required for each previous calendar year of operation.

NOTE: You will be assigned an application number in the system, but Big Bend will keep your previous CUA # or assign one for Big Bend if you are a new CUA applicant.