

Once a particular type of specialty air service is covered by the NAFTA, a Canadian or Mexican applicant no longer need demonstrate reciprocity in filing its application--the United States will be obligated under the NAFTA to approve applications for that type of service (just as Canada and Mexico will be obligated to approve a request by a U.S. operator). Thus, a Canadian or Mexican operator seeking authority to conduct a specialty air service covered by the NAFTA would file an application, but would not need to serve its application on any U.S. operators (since reciprocity would not be at issue).

During the phase-in period, operations not yet covered by the NAFTA would still be subject to the traditional application, service, and processing procedures outlined at the beginning of this discussion. In addition, should a Canadian or Mexican operator seek to conduct a specialty air service which does not clearly belong to one of the categories listed in the above chart, we will, if it is similar to a covered service, consider it to fall into that category and be covered (based on the expectation of similar treatment by Canada and Mexico for U.S. operators). If it is not analogous to one of the categories covered by the NAFTA, we will treat the application on the basis of reciprocity, under the traditional (i.e., non-NAFTA) procedures outlined above.