



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

# Naturalization Through Military Service: Advance Parole for Former Service Members Residing Overseas Seeking Naturalization

## Fact Sheet

April 2022

Former service members of the U. S. military who served honorably during specifically designated periods of hostilities and reside outside the United States may qualify for naturalization. To attend their naturalization interview, these former service members may apply for a visa with the Department of State to enter the United States or apply for an Advance Parole Document for parole for urgent humanitarian or significant public benefit reasons with the Department of Homeland Security to enter the United States, if eligible. **This fact sheet provides information for former service members residing overseas who may seek an Advance Parole Document, which will permit them to appear at a port of entry and seek parole into the United States to complete the naturalization process.**

## PROCESS

Eligible current or former service members must complete the naturalization process, including attending the naturalization interview and taking the Oath of Allegiance, in the United States. For additional information on eligibility for naturalization, see [www.uscis.gov/policy-manual/volume-12-part-i-chapter-3](http://www.uscis.gov/policy-manual/volume-12-part-i-chapter-3). A former service member may request an Advance Parole Document by filing Form I-131, Application for Travel Document, concurrently with Form N-400, Application for Naturalization.

## HOW TO APPLY

- File Form N-400, Application for Naturalization, **without fee**, at [www.uscis.gov/n-400](http://www.uscis.gov/n-400) with all required evidence including:
  - A completed Form N-426, Request for Certification of Military or Naval Service ([www.uscis.gov/n-426](http://www.uscis.gov/n-426)), and a photocopy of your Certificate of Release from Active Duty (DD Form 214), National Guard Report of Separation and Record of Service (NGB Form 22), or other official discharge document for all periods of service.
  - See the Form N-400 instructions for additional evidence requirements, including a police clearance from every place of residence outside the United States within one year of filing.
- If necessary, file Form I-131, Application for Travel Document, **without fee**, available at [www.uscis.gov/i-131](http://www.uscis.gov/i-131) with USCIS including all required evidence. Handwrite “IMMVI” at the top of Form I-131 and in Part 2, check either 1e or 1f.
  - See Form I-131 instructions for additional evidence requirements, including Form I-134, Affidavit of Support, available at [www.uscis.gov/i-134](http://www.uscis.gov/i-134).

## WHERE TO SEND THE APPLICATION

**If filing Form I-131 with Form N-400 concurrently:**

**For U.S. Postal Service (USPS):**

USCIS  
Attn: HP-N-400  
P.O. Box 660865  
Dallas, TX 75266-0865

**For FedEx, UPS, and DHL deliveries:**

USCIS  
Attn: HP (Box 660865)  
2501 S. State Hwy. 121 Business  
Suite 400  
Lewisville, TX 75067-8003

If you are filing only Form N-400, see [www.uscis.gov/n-400](http://www.uscis.gov/n-400) for where to file.

## CONTACT:

For additional information about naturalization, current or former service members may contact: 877-CIS-4MIL (877-247-4645, TTY 800-877-8339) or [militaryinfo@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:militaryinfo@uscis.dhs.gov). For general information about parole and other military related questions, see [www.dhs.gov/immvets](http://www.dhs.gov/immvets).

### Summary of Steps for Former Service Members Seeking Naturalization

If you are:	What to File:	Additional Steps
A former service member filing from outside the United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>File Form N-400 with the USCIS Lockbox.</li><li>If necessary, file Form I-131 with the USCIS Lockbox concurrently with Form N-400 and select the option to request an Advance Parole Document.</li></ul> <p>Note: If you have previously been removed from the United States, USCIS will forward your Form I-131 to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for adjudication. Failure to note any removal proceedings on your Form I-131 could result in delays in processing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>If your request for an Advance Parole Document is approved, you will be contacted to schedule a naturalization interview at the USCIS office with jurisdiction over your naturalization application.</li><li>If your request for an Advance Parole Document is denied, USCIS may coordinate with U.S. Customs and Border Protection to help facilitate your naturalization interview at a land port of entry, if available.</li></ul>

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