Instructions for Application for Naturalization

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

USCIS
Form N-400
OMB No. 1615-0052
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What Is the Purpose of Form N-400?

Form N-400, Application for Naturalization, is an application to become a naturalized U.S. citizen.

If your biological or legal adoptive mother or father is a U.S. citizen by birth, or was naturalized before you reached your 18th birthday, you may already be a U.S. citizen. Before you consider filing this application, please visit the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) website at **www.uscis.gov** for more information on this topic and to review the instructions for Form N-600, Application for Certificate of Citizenship, and Form N-600K, Application for Citizenship and Issuance of Certificate Under Section 322.

If either of your parents is a United States citizen, complete **Part 6. Information About Your Parents** as part of this application. If neither of your parents is a United States citizen, skip **Part 6.** and complete **Part 7. Biographical Information**.

A Guide to Naturalization

To help you understand the naturalization process, USCIS developed A Guide to Naturalization (M-476). This guide provides information on eligibility requirements and naturalization procedures. If you do not already have a photocopy of M-476, you can view the guide on the USCIS website at **www.uscis.gov**.

You may visit the USCIS website at **www.uscis.gov/N-400** **for** filing tips and additional resources to assist you during the naturalization process.

General Eligibility Requirements

You may apply for naturalization when you meet **all** the requirements to become a U.S. citizen. General eligibility requirements are the following:

1. You are at least **18 years of age** at the time of filing (except active duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces);
2. You are a permanent resident of the United States for a required period of time;
3. You have lived within the state or USCIS district where you claim residence for at least **3 months** prior to filing;
4. You have demonstrated physical presence within the United States for a required period of time;
5. You have demonstrated continuous residence for a required period of time;
6. You demonstrate good moral character;
7. You demonstrate an attachment to the principles and ideals of the U.S. Constitution;
8. You demonstrate a basic knowledge of U.S. history and government (also known as "civics") as well as an ability to read, write, speak and understand basic English; **and**
9. You take an Oath of Allegiance to the United States. Some applicants may be eligible for a modified oath.

Naturalization Testing

One of the requirements for naturalization is to take the naturalization test to demonstrate that you are able to read, write, and speak basic English and that you have a basic knowledge of U.S. history and government (civics).

Exemptions From the English Language Test

You are not required to take the English language test if:

1. At the time of filing your Form N-400, you are 50 years of age or older and have lived in the United States as a permanent resident for periods totaling at least 20 years. You do not have to take the English language test, but you do have to take the civics test in the language of your choice.
2. At the time of filing your Form N-400, you are 55 years of age or older and have lived in the United States as a permanent resident for periods totaling at least 15 years. You do not have to take the English language test, but you do have to take the civics test in the language of your choice.
3. At the time of filing your Form N-400, you are 65 years of age or older and have lived in the United States as a permanent resident for periods totaling at least 20 years. You do not have to take the English language test, but you do have to take the civics test in the language of your choice.

NOTE: If you qualify for an exemption from the English language test based on your age and how long you have lived in the United States as a lawful permanent resident, you should answer "Yes" to at least one question in **Part 2.**, **Item Number 13.** of Form N-400.

Medical Exception to the English Language and/or Civics Test

You may be eligible for an exception to the English language and/or civics tests due to a physical or developmental disability or mental impairment that has lasted, or is expected to last, 12 months or more. Refer to Form N-648, Medical Certification for Disability Exceptions, for more information.

NOTE: If you are requesting a medical exception to the English language and civics tests, answer "Yes" in **Part 2.**, **Item Number 12.** of Form N-400. Submit a completed Form N-648 when you file your Form N-400.

Who Should Not File Form N-400

You should not file this form if:

1. You have not met the eligibility requirements for naturalization based on your filing category.
2. You have acquired or derived U.S. citizenship through one or both of your parents or are eligible for citizenship under Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) 322. Visit the USCIS website at **www.uscis.gov** for more information on this topic and to review the instructions for Form N-600, Application for Certificate of Citizenship, and Form N-600K, Application for Citizenship and Issuance of Certificate Under Section 322.

General Instructions

USCIS provides forms free of charge through the USCIS website. In order to view, print, or fill out our forms, you should use the latest version of Adobe Reader, which you can download for free at **http://get.adobe.com/reader/**. If you do not have Internet access, you may call the USCIS National Customer Service Center at **1-800-375-5283** and ask that we mail a form to you. For TTY (deaf or hard of hearing) call **1-800-767-1833**.

Signature. Each application must be properly completed, signed, and filed. For all signatures on this application, USCIS will not accept a stamped or typewritten name in place of a handwritten signature. A legal guardian may sign for a mentally incompetent person.

Filing Fee. Each application must be accompanied by the appropriate filing fee and biometric services fee (if applicable). (See the **What Is the Filing Fee** section of these Instructions.)

Evidence. At the time of filing, you must submit all evidence and supporting documentation listed in the **Required Evidence** section of these Instructions.

Biometrics Services Appointment. USCIS may require that you appear for an interview or provide fingerprints, photograph, and/or signature at any time to verify your identity, obtain additional information, and conduct background and security checks, including a check of criminal history records maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), before making a decision on your application. After USCIS receives your application and ensures it is complete, we will inform you in writing if you need to attend a biometric services appointment. If an appointment is necessary, the notice will provide you the location of your local or designated USCIS Application Support Center (ASC) and the date and time of your appointment or, if you are currently overseas, instruct you to contact a U.S. Embassy, U.S. Consulate, or USCIS office outside the United States to set up an appointment.

If you are required to provide biometrics, at your appointment you must sign an oath reaffirming that:

1. You provided or authorized all information in the application; and
2. You reviewed and understood all of the information contained in, and submitted with, your application; and
3. All of this information was complete, true, and correct at the time of filing.

If you fail to attend your biometric services appointment, USCIS may deny your application.

Copies. You should submit legible **photocopies** of documents requested, unless the Instructions specifically state that you must submit an original document. USCIS may request an original document at the time of filing or at any time during processing of an application, petition, or request. If USCIS requests an original document from you, it will be returned to you after USCIS determines it no longer needs your original.

NOTE: If you submit original documents when not required or requested by USCIS, **your original documents may be immediately destroyed upon receipt.**

Translations. If you submit a document with information in a foreign language, you must also submit a full English translation. The translator must sign a certification that the English language translation is complete and accurate, and that he or she is competent to translate from the foreign language into English.

How To Fill Out Form N-400

1. Type or print legibly in **black** ink.
2. If you need extra space to complete any item in this application; use and attach a separate sheet of paper; type or print your name and Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any) at the top of each sheet; and indicate the **Page Number**, **Part Number**, and **Item Number** to which your answer refers.
3. Answer all questions fully and accurately. If a question does not apply to you (for example, if you have never been married and the question asks "Provide the name of your current spouse"), type or print "N/A," unless otherwise directed. If your answer to a question, which requires a numeric response, is zero or none (for example, "How many children do you have" or "How many times have you departed the United States"), type or print "None," unless otherwise directed.

4. Avoid highlighting, crossing out, or typing or printing outside the area provided for a response. If you must make substantial corrections to your Form N-400, USCIS recommends that you start a new Form N-400 rather than using correction tape or fluid to correct the information. USCIS scanners may see through the white correction tape or fluid. This may lead to incorrect information being captured in USCIS systems, which may cause processing delays or a rejection (non-acceptance) of your Form N-400.
5. Provide your A-Number on the top right corner of each page (if any). Your A-Number is located on your Permanent Resident Card (formerly known as the Alien Registration Card). The A-Number on your card consists of a seven to nine digit number, depending on when your record was created. If the A-Number on your card has fewer than nine digits, place enough zeros before the first number to make a total of nine digits on Form N-400. For example, type or print number A1234567 as A001234567 or type or print number A12345678 as A012345678.
6. Your application must be properly completed, signed, and filed. You must include **all** pages when you file Form N-400, even if the pages are blank. A photocopy of the application is acceptable as long as all signatures on the application are handwritten and original. USCIS will not accept a stamped or typewritten name in place of a signature.

Early Filing. An applicant filing under the general naturalization provision (section 316(a) of the INA) may file his or her application up to 90 days before he or she would first meet the required 5-year period of continuous residence as a lawful permanent resident (LPR). An applicant filing as the spouse of a U.S. citizen under section 319(a) of the INA may file up to 90 days before meeting the required 3-year period of continuous residence as an LPR. Although an applicant may file early according to the 90-day early filing provision, the applicant is not eligible for naturalization until he or she has reached the required 3- or 5-year period of continuous residence as an LPR. Applicants filing up to 90 days before meeting the continuous residence requirement must still meet all other requirements for naturalization at the time of filing Form N-400. For example, an applicant filing under section 319(a) of the INA must meet all other requirements as the spouse of a U.S. citizen at the time of filing.

Specific Instructions

This form is divided into 18 parts.

Part 1. Information About Your Eligibility

Select the box that applies to you. Select only one box. If you select more than one box, your Form N-400 may be delayed.

NOTE: If you are a lawful permanent resident of the United States, **and** you are the spouse of a U.S. citizen, **and** your U.S. citizen spouse is regularly engaged in specified employment abroad (Section 319(b) of the INA), **and** you were authorized to accompany and reside with your spouse abroad, **you do not qualify to naturalize overseas and must be present in the United States at the time of interview and naturalization.** Therefore, type or print the name of the USCIS Field Office where you would like to have your naturalization interview. Visit the USCIS website at **www.uscis.gov/about-us/find-uscis-office/field-offices** to find a USCIS Field Office.

Part 2. Information About You (Person applying for naturalization)

Item Number 1. Your Current Legal Name. Your current legal name is the name on your birth certificate unless it changed after birth by a legal action such as a marriage or court order. Do not provide a nickname.

Item Number 2. Your Name Exactly As It Appears on Your Permanent Resident Card (if applicable)**.** Type or print your name exactly as it appears on your Permanent Resident Card even if it is misspelled or has changed through marriage, divorce, or other court order since you received your card. Type or print "N/A" if you do not have a Permanent Resident Card.

Item Number 3. Other Names You Have Used Since Birth (include nicknames, aliases, and maiden name, if applicable)**.** If you have used any other names or aliases, provide them in this section. If you need extra space to complete this section, use a separate sheet of paper.

Item Number 4. Name Change (Optional)**.** A court can allow you to change your name when you are naturalized. Any name change you request on this application will not be final until you are naturalized by the court. If you want the court to change your name at your naturalization oath ceremony, select "Yes" and complete this section. You do not need to request a name change if your name has changed through marriage, divorce, or other court order.

NOTE: USCIS cannot process name change requests for members of the military, or their spouses, who are naturalizing overseas.

Item Number 5. U.S. Social Security Number (if applicable)**.** Provide your U.S. Social Security number. Type or print "N/A" if you do not have one.

Item Number 6. USCIS Online Account Number (if any)**.** If you have previously filed an application, petition, or request using the USCIS online filing system (previously called USCIS Electronic Immigration System (USCIS ELIS)), provide the USCIS Online Account Number you were issued by the system. You can find your USCIS Online Account Number by logging in to your account and going to the profile page. If you previously filed certain applications, petitions, or requests on a paper form via a USCIS Lockbox facility, you may have received a USCIS Online Account Access Notice issuing you a USCIS Online Account Number. If you received such a notice, your USCIS Online Account Number can be found at the top of the notice. If you were issued a USCIS Online Account Number, enter it in the space provided. The USCIS Online Account Number is not the same as an A-Number.

Item Number 7. Gender. Indicate if you are male or female.

Item Number 8. Date of Birth. Always use eight numbers to show your date of birth. Type or print the date in this order: Month, Day, Year. For example, type or print May 1, 1958, as 05/01/1958. USCIS will reject your Form N-400 if you do not provide your date of birth.

Item Number 9. Date You Became a Lawful Permanent Resident (if applicable)**.** Provide the official date when your permanent residence began as shown on your Permanent Resident Card (formerly known as the Alien Registration Card). Provide the date in this order: Month, Day, Year. For example, type or print August 9, 1988, as 08/09/1988. USCIS may reject your application if you are a lawful permanent resident and do not provide the date you became a lawful permanent resident.

NOTE: You need both your USCIS A-Number and your permanent resident date to file Form N-400. Where applicable, if you do not have this information, you should schedule an appointment to obtain this information before you file your Form N-400.

Item Number 10. Country of Birth. Type or print the name of the country in which you were born. Use the name of the country at the time of your birth, even if the name of the country has changed.

Item Number 11. Country of Citizenship or Nationality. Type or print the name of the country as it currently exists, where you are currently a citizen or national. If the country no longer exists, type or print the current name of the country with current authority.

1. If you are stateless, type or print the name of the country, as it currently exists, where you were last a citizen or national.
2. If you are a citizen or national of more than one country, type or print the name of the foreign country that issued your last passport.

Item Number 12. Do you have a physical or developmental disability or mental impairment that prevents you from demonstrating your knowledge and understanding of the English language and/or civics requirements for naturalization? Select "Yes" if you are requesting an exception to the English language and/or civics tests based on a physical or developmental disability or mental impairment that prevents you from complying with the English language and/or civics requirements for naturalization. Submit Form N-648, Medical Certification for Disability Exceptions, as an attachment to your Form N-400.

NOTE: Submitting a Form N-648 does not guarantee you will be exempted from the testing requirements.

Item Number 13. Exemptions from the English Language Test. Depending on your age and the length of time you have been a lawful permanent resident, you may not be required to take the English language test. Refer to the **Naturalization Testing, Exemptions From the English Language Test**, section of these Instructions for more information (page 2 of 18).

Part 3. Accomodations for Individuals with Disabilities and/or Impairments

USCIS is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals with disabilities and/or impairments that will help them fully participate in USCIS programs and benefits. Reasonable accommodations vary with each disability and/or impairment. They may involve modifications to practices or procedures. There are various types of reasonable accommodations that USCIS may offer. Examples include but are not limited to:

1. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, USCIS may provide you with a sign-language interpreter at an interview or other immigration benefit-related appointment;
2. If you are blind or have low vision, USCIS may permit you to take a test orally rather than in writing; or
3. If you are unable to travel to a designated USCIS location for an interview, USCIS may visit you at your home or hospital to conduct the naturalization interview.

If you believe that you need USCIS to accommodate your disability and/or impairment, select "Yes" and then any applicable box in **Items A. - C.** in **Item Number 1.** that describes the nature of your disabilities and/or impairments. Also, describe the types of accommodations you are requesting on the lines provided. If you are requesting a sign-language interpreter, indicate for which language (for example American Sign Language). If you need extra space to complete this section, use a separate sheet of paper.

NOTE: All domestic USCIS facilities meet the Accessibility Guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act, so you do not need to contact USCIS to request an accommodation for physical access to a domestic USCIS office. However, in **Part 3.**, **Item C.** in **Item Number 1.** of this application, you can indicate whether you use a wheelchair. This will allow USCIS to better prepare for your visit.

NOTE: USCIS also ensures that limited English proficient (LEP) individuals are provided meaningful access at an interview or other immigration benefit-related appointment, unless otherwise prohibited by law. LEP individuals may bring a qualified interpreter to the interview.

USCIS considers requests for reasonable accommodations on a case-by-case basis, and we will make our best efforts to reasonably accommodate your disabilities and/or impairments. USCIS will not exclude you from participating in USCIS programs or deny your application because of your disabilities and/or impairments. Requesting and/or receiving an accommodation will not affect your eligibility for an immigration benefit.

Part 4. Information to Contact You

Provide your current telephone numbers as well as your current email address. Type or print "N/A" if an item is not applicable or if the answer is "none" unless otherwise indicated. If you are hearing impaired and use a TTY telephone connection, indicate this by writing "TTY" after the telephone number.

Part 5. Information About Your Residence

List every address where you have lived during the last 5 years (including other countries) **prior to filing your Form N-400**. Start with where you live now, and then include the dates for each place you have lived in a month, day, and year format (mm/dd/yyyy). For example, type or print May 1, 1998 to June 1, 1999 as 05/01/1998 to 06/01/1999.

Provide your mailing address if it is different from your current address. Provide "In Care Of Name" information, if applicable.

If you do not have a State or Province, enter the name of your city again in that box. If you do not have a ZIP or Postal Code, enter "00000" in the ZIP or Postal Code box.

NOTE: USCIS may not be able to contact you if you do not provide a complete and valid mailing address. If USCIS rejects your Form N-400, USCIS may not be able to return the fee for the Form N-400 to you if you do not provide a complete and valid mailing address.

If you are residing outside of the United States, filing under INA section 319(b), and you want USCIS to collect your biometrics in the United States, then you must provide an address in the United States. USCIS will send a letter to your U.S. mailing address notifying you when and where to go for your biometrics services appointment.

If you are a victim of domestic violence, you are not required to disclose the confidential address of a shelter or safe house. If you are residing in a shelter or safe house at the time of filing this application or you do not feel safe providing your current address, you may provide a "safe address" where you are able to receive mail. Do not provide a Post Office Box number unless that is your only address. If you are not currently residing in a shelter or safe house, but have resided in a shelter or safe house for part of the reporting period, you may provide just the name of the city and state of residence for the shelter or safe house. Further clarification, if needed, will occur at the interview.

Part 6. Information About Your Parents

If neither one of your parents is a United States citizen, skip this part and go to **Part 7.**

Citizenship of Parents. Complete **Item Numbers 1.**, **2.**, and **3.** in **Part 6.** Select "No" if your mother or father are not U.S. citizens and proceed to the next **Item Number** or **Part** as directed on the form.

If one or both of your parents is a U.S. citizen, select "Yes" and complete **Items A. - E.** in **Item Number 2.** (mother's citizenship) and **Items A. - E.** in **Item Number 3.** (father's citizenship) in **Part 6.**

Part 7. Biographic Information

Provide the biographic information requested in **Part 7.**, **Item Numbers 1. - 6.** Providing this information as part of your application may reduce the time you spend at your USCIS ASC appointment as described in the **Biometric Services Appointment** section of these Instructions.

Item Numbers 1. - 2. Ethnicity and Race. Select the boxes that best describe your ethnicity and race.

Categories and Definitions for Ethnicity and Race

1. **Hispanic or Latino.** A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. (**NOTE:** This category is only included under Ethnicity in **Part 7.**, **Item Number 1.**)
2. **White.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.
3. **Asian.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.
4. **Black or African American.** A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
5. **American Indian or Alaska Native.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.
6. **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

Item Number 3. Height. Select the values that best match your height in feet and inches. For example, if you are five feet and nine inches, select "5" for feet and "09" for inches. Do not enter your height in meters or centimeters. If you do so, your Form N-400 may be delayed.

Item Number 4. Weight. Enter your weight in pounds. If you do not know your weight, or need to enter a weight under 30 pounds or over 699 pounds, enter "000." Do not enter your weight in kilograms.

Item Number 5. Eye Color. Select the box that best describes the color of your eyes.

Item Number 6. Hair Color. Select the box that best describes the color of your hair.

Part 8. Information About Your Employment and Schools You Attended

List where you have worked or attended school full time or part time during the last 5 years. Provide information for the complete time period. Include all military, police, and/or intelligence service.

Begin by providing information about your current and most recent employment, studies, or unemployment, if applicable. Provide the locations and dates where you worked, were self-employed, were unemployed, or have studied during the last 5 years. If you worked for yourself, write "self-employed." If you were unemployed, write "unemployed."

Part 9. Time Outside the United States

Item Number 1. Provide the total number of days (24 hours or longer) you spent outside the United States during the last 5 years.

Item Number 2. Provide the total number of trips (24 hours or longer) you have taken outside the United States during the last 5 years.

Item Number 3. Provide information for every trip (24 hours or longer) you have taken outside the United States during the last 5 years. Start with your most recent trip and work backwards.

Part 10. Information About Your Marital History

Item Number 1. What is your current marital status? Select your marital status on the date you file your Form N-400.

If you are single and have never been married, go to **Part 11. Information About Your Children**.

Item Number 2. If you are married, is your spouse a current member of the U.S. Armed Forces? If you are married, indicate if your spouse is a current member of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Item Number 3. How many times have you been married (including annulled marriages, marriages to other people, and marriages to the same person)**?** Type or print the number of times you were married. If you were married to the same person more than one time, count each time as a separate marriage.

Item Number 4. If you are now married, provide the requested information about your current spouse.

Item Number 5. Is your current spouse a U.S. citizen? Select the box to indicate whether your current spouse is a U.S. citizen.

Item Number 6. If your current spouse became a U.S. citizen after birth, select the box that indicates when your spouse became a U.S. citizen and provide the date he or she became a U.S. citizen.

Item Number 7. Provide the requested information if your spouse is not a U.S. citizen.

Item Number 8. How many times has your current spouse been married (including annulled marriages, marriages to other people, and marriages to the same person)**?** If your current spouse has been married before, provide the following information about your current spouse's prior spouse including your current spouse's prior spouse's full legal name, immigration status (if known), date of birth, country of birth, country of citizenship or nationality, date of marriage with prior spouse, date marriage ended with prior spouse, and how the marriage ended with prior spouse. If your current spouse had more than one previous marriage, use a separate sheet of paper to provide the information requested. If your spouse was married to the same person more than one time, provide the requested information about each marriage separately.

Item Number 9. If you were married before, provide the requested information about your prior spouse including full legal name, immigration status (if known), date of birth, country of birth, country of citizenship or nationality, date of marriage with prior spouse, date marriage ended with prior spouse, and how the marriage ended with prior spouse. If you have more than one previous marriage, provide that information on a separate sheet of paper. If you were married to the same person more than one time, provide the requested information about each marriage separately.

Part 11. Information About Your Children

Item Number 1. Indicate your total number of children. Count all of your children, regardless of whether they are alive, missing, deceased; born in other countries or in the United States; under 18 years of age or over 18 years of age; married or unmarried; living with you or elsewhere; current stepchildren; legally adopted children; or children born when you were not married.

Item Number 2. Provide information about all your children listed in **Item Number 1.**, regardless of age. If needed, use a separate sheet of paper to provide the information requested. Provide the following information for each child including the child's current legal name; A-Number (if applicable); date of birth; country of birth (type or print the name of the country at the time of your child's birth, even if the name changed); relationship to you (for example, biological child, stepchild, legally adopted child); and current address.

1. If your son or daughter is living with you, type or print "Child Residing With Me" in the space provided for the child's address;
2. If your son or daughter is not living with you, type or print the address where your child resides; or
3. If your son or daughter is missing or deceased, type or print "Child Missing" or "Child Deceased" in the space provided for the address.

Part 12. Additional Information About You (Person Applying for Naturalization)

Item Numbers 1. - 50. Answer each question by selecting "Yes" or "No," where applicable. If any part of a question applies to you or has ever applied to you, you must answer "Yes." If you answer "Yes" to any of the questions in **Item Numbers 1. - 44.** in this part, include a typed or printed explanation on a separate sheet of paper. You may also provide evidence to support your answers. If you answer "No" to any question in **Item Numbers 45. - 50.**, include a typed or printed explanation on a separate sheet of paper. Your answers, whether "Yes" or "No," will not automatically cause your application to be denied.

Part 13. Applicant's Statement, Certification, and Signature

Item Numbers 1. - 6. Select the appropriate box to indicate whether you read this application yourself or whether you had an interpreter assist you. If someone assisted you in completing the application, select the box indicating that you used a preparer. Further, you must sign and date your application. Every application **MUST** contain the signature of the applicant (or parent or legal guardian, if applicable). A stamped or typewritten name in place of a signature is not acceptable. You may place an "X" mark instead of a signature if you are unable to write in any language. USCIS will reject your Form N-400 if it is not signed.

Part 14. Interpreter's Contact Information, Certification, and Signature

Item Numbers 1. - 7. If you used anyone as an interpreter to read the Instructions and questions on this application to you in a language in which you are fluent, the interpreter must fill out this section, provide his or her name, the name and address of his or her business or organization (if any), his or her daytime telephone number, his or her mobile telephone number(if any), and his or her email address (if any). The interpreter must sign and date the application.

Part 15. Contact Information, Declaration, and Signature of the Person Preparing this Application, if Other Than the Applicant

Item Numbers 1. - 8. This section must contain the signature of the person who completed your application, if other than you, the applicant. If the same individual acted as your interpreter **and** your preparer, that person should complete both **Part 14**. and **Part 15.** If the person who completed this application is associated with a business or organization, that person should complete the business or organization name and address information. Anyone who helped you complete this application **MUST** sign and date the application. A stamped or typewritten name in place of a signature is not acceptable. If the person who helped you prepare your application is an attorney or accredited representative whose representation extends beyond preparation of the application, he or she may be obliged to also submit a completed Form G-28, Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Accredited Representative, along with your application. USCIS will reject your Form N-400 if it is not signed by the preparer you used to prepare the questions on the application.

NOTE: Do not complete Parts 16., 17., and 18. until a USCIS Officer instructs you to do so at the interview.

Part 16. Signature at Interview

Do not complete this part. The USCIS Officer will ask you to complete this part at your interview.

Part 17. Renunciation of Foreign Titles

Do not complete this part until a USCIS Officer instructs you to do so at your interview.

Most people do not have a foreign hereditary title or order of nobility. This part will apply only if you answered "Yes" to **Part 12.**, **Items A.** and **B.**, in **Item Number 4.** If you do have a hereditary title or order of nobility, the law requires you to renounce this title as part of your oath ceremony to become a U.S. citizen. In **Part 17.** you must affirm you are ready to do so.

Part 18. Oath of Allegiance

Do not complete this part. The USCIS Officer will ask you to complete this part at your interview.

If USCIS approves your application, you must take this Oath of Allegiance to become a U.S. citizen. In limited cases, you can take a modified oath. The oath requirement cannot be waived unless you are unable to understand its meaning because of a physical or developmental disability or mental impairment. For more information, see A Guide to Naturalization (M-476). Your signature on this application only indicates that you have no objections to taking the Oath of Allegiance. It does not mean that you have taken the oath or that you are naturalized. If USCIS approves your Form N-400 for naturalization, you must attend an oath ceremony and take the Oath of Allegiance to the United States.

We recommend that you print or save a photocopy of your completed application to review in the future and for your records.

Required Evidence

Below is a list of documents to submit with your Form N-400.

1. **Photographs.** Only applicants who reside overseas must provide two identical color photographs of yourself taken recently. The photos must have a white to off-white background, be printed on thin paper with a glossy finish, and be unmounted and unretouched. Passport-style photos must be 2" x 2". The photos must be in color with full face, frontal view on a white to off-white background. Head height should measure 1" to 1 3/8" from top of hair to bottom of chin, and eye height is between 1 1/8" to 1 3/8" from bottom of photo. Your head must be bare, unless contrary to your religious beliefs. Using a pencil or felt pen, lightly print your name and A-Number (if any) on the back of the photo.
2. **Photocopy of Permanent Resident Card.** Provide a photocopy of the front and back of your Form I-551 (Permanent Resident Card). USCIS must be able to read the information on the photocopy. If you have lost your Form I-551, attach a photocopy of any other entry document or a photocopy of a receipt showing that you have filed Form I-90, Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card.
3. **Photocopy of your Current Legal Marital Status Document.** Provide a photocopy of your current marriage certificate, divorce, annulment decree, or death certificate of former spouse.
4. **Documents for Military Personnel or Spouses of Military Personnel:**
   A. **Form N-426** (Request for Certification of Military or Naval Service)**.** If you are a current member of the U.S. Armed Forces, provide a completed and certified Form N-426. If you are separated from the military, provide an uncertified Form N-426.

B. Evidence of Military Service. If you ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces, provide a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, DD Form 214, for all periods of service. If you are currently serving in an active duty status within the United States or abroad, you should submit a photocopy of your official military orders.

C. Spouses of Military Personnel have additional requirements. Refer to Naturalization Information for Military Personnel (M-599) for eligibility requirements. You can obtain this information on the USCIS website at **www.uscis.gov/military**.

Below is a list of documents to bring with you to your Form N-400 interview.

1. Permanent Resident Card.

2. State-Issued Identification. Bring a valid State-issued identification, such as a driver's license.

3. Passports and Travel Documents. Bring valid and expired passports, as well as any travel documents issued by USCIS.

4. Evidence of Your Current Legal Marital Status. Bring the original of all marriage certificates, divorce or annulment decrees, death certificates, and other official records to confirm your marital history and your current legal marital status.

5. Evidence of the Termination of Your Spouse's Prior Marriage(s). Bring the original of your current spouse's divorce certificate. If your spouse is widowed, bring the original of his or her former spouse's death certificate. If neither of these are available, bring any other evidence that indicates the termination of your spouse's marriage for consideration.

6. Name Change(s). If you have changed your name at any time, bring the document(s) that legally changed your name(s), such as a marriage certificate, divorce decree, name change petition, or other official record if you ever changed your name.

7. Other Documents. Depending on the circumstances, you should bring certain documents to your interview. You may also submit copies of these documents with your application. For example:

A. Spouse of a U.S. Citizen. Bring the following items to your interview if you are applying for naturalization on the basis of your marriage to a U.S. citizen:

(1) Evidence that your spouse has been a U.S. citizen for at least 3 years at the time you file your Form N-400. Such evidence may include: a birth certificate (if your spouse never lost U.S. citizenship since birth), Certificate of Naturalization, Certificate of Citizenship, or Form FS-240 Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States of America;

(2) Evidence of the termination of all your prior marriages; and

(3) Evidence that you and your spouse have lived in marital union for at least 3 years at the time you file your Form N-400. Such evidence may include:

(a) Joint bank and credit card statements;

(b) Leases or mortgages;

(c) Birth certificates of children;

(d) Insurance policies; and

(e) Internal Revenue Service (IRS)-certified copies of the income tax forms that you and your spouse filed for the past 3 years (or an IRS tax return transcript for the last 3 years).

B. Spouse of a U.S. Citizen Who is Regularly Stationed Abroad. Bring evidence demonstrating your U.S. citizen spouse's qualifying employment abroad if you are filing under section 319(b). Such evidence may include:

(1) The employer' name and nature of the employer's business;

(2) The nature of the work the U.S. citizen spouse is performing;

(3) Documentation to establish the employing entity is owned in whole or in part by U.S. interests; and

(4) Documentation to establish the employing entity is engaged in whole or in part in the development of the foreign trade and U.S. commerce.

In addition, bring the following:

(1) Your U.S. citizen spouse's travel orders which include your name as a spouse;

(2) Documentation to establish your spouse's employment abroad is scheduled to last for at least 1 year from the date you filed Form N-400; and

(3) A written statement of your intent to reside abroad with your spouse, and to live in the United States immediately after your spouse's employment abroad ends.

C. Children and Support of Dependents. Bring evidence that all of the children listed on your Form N-400 are your children. Such evidence may include:

(1) Birth certificates for all children you claim, or a court order naming you as the parent; or

(2) Final adoption certificates or decrees for all children you have legally adopted.

In addition, if you have dependent children living apart from you, bring evidence that you support each dependent child and that you have complied with child support obligations. Bring photocopies of the court or government order and evidence you have complied with the order if a court has ordered you to provide financial support for a spouse, ex-spouse, or children. Such evidence may include:

(1) Cancelled checks or money order receipts;

(2) A court or agency document showing child support payments;

(3) Evidence of wage garnishments; or

(4) A notarized letter from the parent or guardian who cares for your children.

D. Tax Returns and Overdue Taxes. Bring photocopies of income tax returns that you filed with the IRS for the past 5 years, or 3 years if filing for naturalization on the basis of marriage to a U.S. citizen. Tax returns are not required for every case. However, USCIS strongly encourages you to bring your tax returns; especially if you are filing based on marriage to a U.S. citizen or have traveled outside the United States for a period that lasted 6 months or more. You can request copies of Federal tax documents at your local IRS office or **www.irs.gov**.

You may also bring an original IRS tax transcript listing tax information for the past 5 years (3 years if filing on the basis of marriage to a U.S. citizen). To obtain a free IRS tax transcript, visit **www.irs.gov**. Select "Tools" and then select "Order a Return or Account Transcript." For assistance, you can also call the IRS at **1-800-908-9946**.

If you have any Federal, state, or local taxes that are overdue, bring:

(1) A signed agreement from the IRS, state, or local tax office showing you have filed a tax return and arranged to pay the taxes you owe; and

(2) Documentation from the IRS, state, or local tax office showing the current status of your repayment program.

E. Trips Outside the United States. Bring evidence that you maintained your continuous residence in the United States if you have taken any trips outside the United States that lasted more than 6 months but less than 1 year. You may submit documentation which includes, but is not limited to, evidence that during the absence:

(1) You did not terminate your employment in the United States or work overseas;

(2) Your immediate family remained in the United States; or

(3) You retained full access to your place of residence in the United States.

For example:

(1) An IRS tax return transcript or an IRS-certified tax return listing tax information relevant to your absence for the last 5 years (or 3 years if you are applying on the basis of marriage to a U.S. citizen);

(2) Rent or mortgage payments and pay statements;

(3) Bank, credit card, and loan statements showing regular transactions;

(4) Proof of car registration and insurance;

(5) A photocopy of your passport showing entry and exit stamps; or

(6) Any other document that shows you have not abandoned your residence in the United States.

F. Selective Service Registration. If you are a man between 18 and 26 years of age, provide proof of your registration with the Selective Service. If you are 26 years of age or older, provide proof that you registered with the Selective Service when you were required to do so between 18 and 26 years of age.

If you were required to register and did not, provide a typed or printed statement explaining why you did not register and provide a status information letter from the Selective Service. For more information about Selective Service registration, or how to get proof that you registered, visit **www.sss.gov** or call **1-888-655-1825**.

G. Arrests/Convictions. If you have ever been arrested or detained anywhere in the world, by any law enforcement officer, for any reason, and **no charges were filed**, bring:

(1) An original or court-certified arrest report; and

(2) An official, certified statement from the arresting agency or applicable court confirming that no charges were filed.

If you have ever been arrested or detained anywhere in the world, by any law enforcement officer, for any reason, and **charges were filed**, bring:

(1) Certified photocopies of **all** arrest reports, charging documents, court dispositions, sentencing reports, and any other relevant documents.

(2) You may include any additional evidence in your favor concerning the circumstances of your arrests or convictions that you would like USCIS to consider.

(3) If you were placed on probation, you must provide evidence to show that you completed your probationary sentence.

If you have ever been convicted or placed in an alternative sentencing program (such as diversion) or rehabilitative program (such as a drug treatment or community service program), bring:

(1) An original or court-certified sentencing record for each incident; and

(2) Evidence that you completed your sentence, such as a probation record, parole record, or evidence that you completed an alternative sentencing program or rehabilitative program. Copies must be certified by the issuing agency.

If you have ever had any arrest or conviction vacated, set aside, sealed, expunged, or otherwise removed from your record, bring:

(1) An original or court-certified court order vacating, setting aside, sealing, expunging or otherwise removing the arrest or conviction from your record; or

(2) An original statement from the court that no record exists of your arrest or conviction.

NOTE: You must provide the documentation even if someone including a judge, law enforcement officer, or attorney told you that you no longer have a record or told you that you do not have to disclose the information.

NOTE: You must submit documentation of traffic incidents if:

(1) The incident involved alcohol or drugs;

(2) The incident led to an arrest; or

(3) The incident seriously injured another person.

You do not need to submit documentation for traffic fines or incidents that did not involve an arrest or did not involve drugs or alcohol, if the only penalty was a fine of less than $500 or points on your driving record.

What Is the Filing Fee?

The filing fee for Form N-400 is **$595**. A biometric services fee of **$85** is also required for applicants under 75 years of age when filing Form N-400 regardless of where you live and whether you are filing from within the United States or abroad.

NOTE: No filing fee is required for military applicants filing under section 328 or 329 of the INA.

Biometric Services Fee Exceptions

You do not have to pay a biometric services fee if:

1. You are 75 years of age or older; or
2. You are filing under the military provisions, Section 328 or 329 of the INA.

USCIS **cannot** accept a biometric services fee if you are not required to pay a biometric services fee.

Rejected Applications

USCIS will reject your Form N-400 if you submit the incorrect fee or an incorrect payment method. USCIS also will reject your Form N-400 if you include payment for more than what you are required to pay.

In the event USCIS rejects your application, we will return any filing fees with your application.

Use the following guidelines when you are paying for your applicatio--n. You must:

1. Pay for each application using a single payment method (check, money order, or credit card) and not a combination of methods; and
2. Use the same payment method for all applications that are mailed together.

NOTE: You must submit all fees in the exact amounts. The filing fee and biometric services fee are not refundable, regardless of any action USCIS takes on this application. **DO NOT MAIL CASH.**

Payments By Check or Money Order

Use the following guidelines when you prepare your checks or money orders for the Form N-400 filing fee and biometric services fee:

1. The checks or money orders must be drawn on a bank or other financial institution located in the United States and must be payable in U.S. currency; and
2. Make the checks or money orders payable to U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

   NOTE: Spell out U.S. Department of Homeland Security; do not use the initials “USDHS” or “DHS.”
3. If you live outside the United States, contact the nearest U.S. Embassy or U.S. Consulate for instructions on the method of payment.

Notice to Those Making Payment by Check

If you send us a check, USCIS will convert it into an electronic funds transfer (EFT). This means we will photocopy your check and use the account information on it to electronically debit your account for the amount of the check. The debit from your account will usually take 24 hours and your bank will show it on your regular account statement.

You will not receive your original check back. We will destroy your original check, but will keep a photocopy of it. If USCIS cannot process the EFT for technical reasons, you authorize us to process the photocopy in place of your original check. If USCIS cannot complete the EFT because of insufficient funds, we may try to make the transfer two additional times.

Payments by Credit Card

Use the following guidelines when you complete Form G-1450 to pay your Form N-400 fees by credit card:

1. Make sure to complete all three sections of the authorization and sign your authorization; and

   NOTE: Failure to provide the requested information may result in USCIS and your financial institution not accepting the payment. USCIS cannot process credit card payments without an authorized signature.

2. Place your Form G-1450 ON TOP of your Form N-400.

Notice to Those Making Payment by Credit Card

If you submit Form G-1450, USCIS will use the information you provide to process a credit card payment through the Department of Treasury Pay.gov Collections Control Panel (CCP). CCP is a Web-based application that allows government agencies to process payments by credit or debit cards.

After USCIS processes your Form G-1450, **we will destroy your authorization**, regardless if USCIS approves or denies your application. USCIS will reject your application for lack of payment if your credit card is declined. USCIS will not attempt to process your credit card payment again.

If you receive an insufficient funds notice, USCIS will send you instructions on how to re-submit your filing fee, biometrics services fee, and penalty fee. Do not send a new Form G-1450 for the fees to the address where you filed your Form N-400. USCIS will return it to you.

You must use a single credit card to pay all fees on an individual application.

For more information about Form G-1450 and credit card payments for Form N-400, please visit **www.uscis.gov/N-400** or review the frequently asked questions, Pay Your N-400 Application Fee with a Credit Card, at **http://www.uscis.gov/forms/fingerprints/pay-your-n-400-application-fee-your-credit-card**.

How To Check If the Fees Are Correct

Form N-400 filing fee and biometric services fee are current as of the edition date in the lower left corner of this page. However, because USCIS fees change periodically, you can verify that the fees are correct by following one of the steps below.

1. Visit the USCIS website at **www.uscis.gov**, select "FORMS," and check the appropriate fee; or
2. Call the USCIS National Customer Service Center at **1-800-375-5283** and ask for fee information. For TTY (deaf or hard of hearing) call **1-800-767-1833**.

Fee Waiver

You may be eligible for a fee waiver under 8 CFR 103.7(c). If you believe you are eligible for a fee waiver, complete Form I-912, Request for Fee Waiver (or a written request) and submit it and any required evidence of your inability to pay the filing fee with this application. You can review the fee waiver guidance at **www.uscis.gov/feewaiver**.

Re-Filing Form N-400

If USCIS denied your previously filed Form N-400 and you are filing a new Form N-400, you must pay the full amount. **Otherwise, USCIS will not accept your Form N-400. USCIS cannot apply a previously submitted filing fee amount to a newly filed Form N-400.**

Where To File?

See our website at **www.uscis.gov/N-400** or call our National Customer Service Center at **1-800-375-5283** for the most current information about where to file this application. For TTY (deaf or hard of hearing) call **1-800-767-1833**.

Address Change

An applicant, petitioner, or requester who is not a U.S. citizen must notify USCIS of his or her new address within 10 days of moving from his or her previous residence. For information on filing a change of address, go to the USCIS website at **www.uscis.gov/addresschange** or contact the USCIS National Customer Service Center at **1-800-375-5283**. For TTY (deaf or hard of hearing) call **1-800-767-1833**.

NOTE: Do not submit a change of address request to USCIS Lockbox facilities because these facilities do not process change of address requests.

CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE U.S. ARMED FORCES

Call the Military Help Line at **1-877-247-4645** if you are transferred to a new duty station after you file your Form N-400, including if you are deployed overseas or to a vessel.

Processing Information

Any Form N-400 that is not signed or accompanied by the correct filing fee and biometric services fee will be rejected. Any application that is not completed in accordance with these Instructions, is missing pages, or otherwise not executed in its entirety, or is not accompanied by the required initial evidence, may also be rejected. If your Form N-400 is rejected, the application and any fees will be returned to you and you will be notified why the application is considered deficient. You may correct the deficiency and resubmit Form N-400. An application is not considered properly filed until accepted by USCIS.

Initial Processing. Once USCIS accepts your application, we will check it for completeness. If you do not completely fill out this application, you will not establish a basis for your eligibility and USCIS may reject or deny your application.

Requests for More Information. We may request that you provide more information or evidence to support your application. We may also request that you provide the originals of any copies you submit. If USCIS requests an original document from you, it will be returned to you after USCIS determines it no longer needs your original.

NOTE: If you submit original documents when not required or requested by USCIS, **your original documents may be immediately destroyed upon receipt.**

Requests for Interview. We may request that you appear at a USCIS office for an interview based on your application. At the time of any interview or other appearance at a USCIS office, we may require that you provide your fingerprints, photograph, and/or signature to verify your identity and/or update background and security checks.

Decision. The decision on Form N-400 involves a determination of whether you have established eligibility for the immigration benefit you are seeking. USCIS will notify you of the decision in writing.

Attorney or Representative

You may be represented, at no expense to the U.S. Government, by an attorney or other duly accredited representative. Your attorney or representative must submit a Form G-28, Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Representative, with your Form N-400. Your attorney or representative may also submit the Form G-28 at the time of your interview. Form G-28 can be obtained by visiting the USCIS website at **www.uscis.gov/G-28**, calling the USCIS Forms Request Line at **1-800-870-3676**, or by calling the USCIS National Customer Service Center at **1-800-375-5283**. For TTY (deaf or hard of hearing) call **1-800-767-1833**.

USCIS Forms and Information

To ensure you are using the latest version of this application, visit the USCIS website at **www.uscis.gov** where you can obtain the latest USCIS forms and immigration-related information. If you do not have Internet access, you may order USCIS forms by calling the Forms Request Line at **1-800-870-3676**. You may also obtain forms and information by calling the USCIS National Customer Service Center at **1-800-375-5283**. For TTY (deaf or hard of hearing) call **1-800-767-1833**.

Instead of waiting in line for assistance at your local USCIS office, you can schedule an appointment online at **www.uscis.gov**. Select "Schedule an appointment online" and follow the screen prompts to set up your appointment. Once you finish scheduling an appointment, the system will generate an appointment notice for you.

Penalties

If you knowingly and willfully falsify or conceal a material fact or submit a false document with this Form N-400, USCIS can deny your Form N-400 and may deny any other immigration benefit. In addition, you may face criminal prosecution and penalties provided by law.

USCIS Compliance Review and Monitoring

By signing this application, you have stated under penalty of perjury (28 U.S.C. section 1746) that all information and documentation submitted with this application is complete, true, and correct. You also authorize the release of any information from your records that USCIS may need to determine your eligibility for the immigration benefit you are seeking and consent to USCIS verifying such information.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has the authority to verify any information you submit to establish eligibility for the immigration benefit you are seeking at any time. USCIS' legal authority to verify this information is in 8 U.S.C. sections 1103, 1155, and 1184; and 8 CFR Parts 103, 204, 205, 214, 316, and 336. To ensure compliance with applicable laws and authorities, USCIS may verify information before or after your case is decided.

Agency verification methods may include, but are not limited to, review of public records and information; contact via written correspondence, the Internet, facsimile, other electronic transmission, or telephone; unannounced physical site inspections of residences and locations of employment; and interviews. USCIS will use information obtained through verification to assess your compliance with the laws and to determine your eligibility for an immigration benefit.

Subject to the restrictions under 8 CFR 103.2(b)(16), USCIS will provide you with an opportunity to address any adverse or derogatory information that may result from a USCIS compliance review, verification, or site visit after a formal decision is made on your case or after the agency has initiated an adverse action which may result in revocation or termination of an approval.

USCIS Privacy Act Statement

AUTHORITIES: The information requested on this application, and the associated evidence, is collected under the Immigration and Nationality Act section 334 [8 U.S.C. 1445].

PURPOSE: The primary purpose for providing the requested information on this application is to determine if you have established eligibility for naturalization. USCIS requests the applicant to provide their Social Security number (SSN) to facilitate and expedite the adjudication of the applicant's request. The SSN is used to establish and corroborate the applicant's identity to complete a sufficient background check. DHS will use the information you provide to grant or deny the immigration benefit you are seeking.

DISCLOSURE: The information you provide is voluntary. However, failure to provide the requested information, including the SSN, and any requested evidence, may delay a final decision in your case or result in denial of your application.

ROUTINE USES: DHS may share the information you provide on this application with other Federal, state, local, and foreign government agencies and authorized organizations. DHS follows approved routine uses described in the associated published system of records notices [DHS-USCIS-007 - Benefits Information System and DHS-USCIS-001 - Alien File, Index, and National File Tracking System of Records] which you can find at **www.dhs.gov/privacy**. DHS may also share the information, as appropriate, for law enforcement purposes or in the interest of national security.

Paperwork Reduction Act

An agency may not conduct or sponsor information collection, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated at 9 hours and 17 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering the required documentation and information, completing the application, preparing statements, attaching necessary documentation, and submitting the application. The collection of biometrics is estimated to require 1 hour and 10 minutes. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Regulatory Coordination Division, Office of Policy and Strategy, 20 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20529-2140; OMB No. 1615-0052. **Do not mail your completed Form N-400 to this address.**