



## **Citizenship Eligibility Requirements**

- Be at least 18 years old by the date you file.
- Have been a lawful permanent resident for at least 5 years (or 3 years if married to a U.S. citizen).
- Have been present in the U.S. for 2.5 out of the past 5 years (1.5 out of the past 3 if married to a U.S. citizen) and have not been outside the U.S. for 1 year or more within the last 5 years (3 if married to a U.S. citizen).
- Have been a resident of the state from which you are filing your application for at least 3 months.
- Be able to speak, read, and write ordinary English. (Exemptions may apply in some cases.)
- Be able to pass a U.S. history and government exam. (Exemptions may apply.)
- Be a person of “good moral character” (this will be difficult to establish if you have failed to pay child support, taxes, or have been convicted of crimes, among other things).
- Be willing to take an oath of loyalty to the United States.

## **What to Bring to Naturalization Day**

### **Everyone**

- Your Permanent Resident Card (Green Card).
- \$675 (A personal check or money order payable to Department of Homeland Security at the time you submit the application) (no fee if active military – bring proof of status) (\$595 if over the age of 75).
- 2 color passport photos
- List of home addresses for the past five years and the dates in which you resided at these addresses.
- List of employer names and addresses for the past five years, including the dates you worked with these employers.
- Birth dates and data for your spouse (current and former) and ALL children (including adult, adopted and deceased) – date and place of birth, A#, Green Card, and current address.
- Dates you have been outside of the U.S. since becoming a permanent resident and the countries you visited on each trip.
- If necessary, bring interpreter to translate.

### **Other Documents**

- **If the name on your green card is different than your current legal name:**
  - Bring the documents that legally changed your name (marriage certificate, divorce decree, or court document)

- **If you are applying for US citizenship based upon marriage to a US citizen bring:**
  - Proof your spouse had been a citizen for the past 3 years (spouse’s birth certificate, naturalization certificate, certificate of citizenship, US passport, or form FS240);
  - Current marriage certificate;
  - Proof of termination of all prior marriages of your spouse (divorce decree(s), annulment(s), or death certificate(s));
  - Document showing that you and your spouse are still living together (examples: tax returns, bank statements, leases, mortgages, birth certificates of your children, IRS-certified copies of income taxes for the past three years)
  
- **If you have been married more than one time:**
  - Bring proof that ALL earlier marriages ended (divorce decree(s), annulment(s), or death certificate(s)).
  
- **If you have taken a trip outside the US lasting longer than 6 months since becoming a Permanent Resident bring:**
  - IRS tax return “transcript” for the last 5 years (or last 3 years if married to a US citizen);
  - Rent or mortgage payments; pay stubs.
  
- **If you have a dependent spouse or children who do not live with you bring:**
  - Any court order to provide financial support;
  - Evidence of your financial support (examples: canceled checks, money orders receipt, evidence of wage garnishments, or letter from parent of guardian who cares for your children).
  
- **If you think you have been arrested, detained, or if you have had to appear before a court for any reason whether in the last five years or earlier:**
  - Bring ALL documents relating to the arrest, conviction, court appearance, and final disposition.
  - **EXCEPTION**—Minor traffic violations (examples: parking tickets, speeding tickets)
  
- **If your federal, state, or local taxes are overdue (or you have failed to pay them):**
  - Bring copies of any documents, letters, or papers you sent to or received from the government about the problem.
  
- **Selective Service:** In general, all men ages 18 to 25 present in the US (regardless of citizenship or immigration status) are required to register for the US Selective Service. Only men who are in the US in valid non-immigrant status (i.e. on a student, temporary worker, or visitor’s visa) while age 18 to 25 are not required to register. If you were required to register at any time , even if you are over 25 now, please bring proof of your registration.
  - If you do not have proof of your registration, you can go to the Selective Service website ([www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov)), enter your name, Social Security number, and birth date, and make a print-out showing that you registered. Bring this print-out with you. Or, you can call (847) 688-2576 to get proof that you registered. You should submit this with your N-400.