

Instructions

What Is the Purpose of This Form?

This Form N-600 is an application for a Certificate of Citizenship.

To request forms from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), call our toll-free forms line at **1-800-870-3676**. You may also get USCIS forms and information about immigration laws and regulations by calling our **National Customer Service Center** at **1-800-375-5283** or visiting our internet website at **<http://www.uscis.gov>**.

NOTE: USCIS is comprised of offices of the former Immigration and Naturalization (INS).

Who Should Use This Form?

You may use this form if you claim U.S. citizenship either by action of law while residing in the United States or by having been born outside the United States to U.S. citizen parent(s).

If you are the biological or adopted child of a U.S. citizen, you were born outside the United States and you are claiming citizenship by action of law, you automatically become a U.S. citizen if:

- You have at least one parent who is a U.S. citizen, whether by birth or naturalization; **and**
- You regularly reside in the United States in the legal and physical custody of your U.S. citizen parent; **and**
- You have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence (**NOTE:** If you entered the United States as an adopted child, you must have been admitted as an IR-3 (child adopted outside the United States). If you entered as an IR-4 (child coming to the United States to be adopted), a final adoption must take place for this section of law to apply to you.); **and**
- You have not yet reached your 18th birthday; **and**
- You are a biological child, you were legitimate or you were legitimated while in the legal custody of your legitimating parent(s) prior to reaching your 16th birthday; **or**
- You are a biological child born out of wedlock and you have not been legitimated and your **mother** naturalizes as a U.S. citizen.

NOTE: If you are now over the age of 18 years but all of the above conditions applied to you before your 18th birthday **and** you were under the age of 18 on February 27, 2001 (the date the law took effect), you may file this form to obtain a certificate of citizenship.

If you were under the age of 18 on February 27, 2001, but not all of the conditions noted above were met prior to your 18th birthday, you must qualify for U.S. citizenship in your own right.

You may also file for a certificate of citizenship if all of the following actions occurred before your 18th birthday and prior to February 27, 2001:

- You regularly resided in the United States after admission as a lawful permanent resident; **and**
- Both of your parents, the parent having legal and physical custody of you or your sole surviving parent naturalized as a U.S. citizen.

If you are the biological child of a U.S. citizen, you were born outside the United States and you are claiming citizenship by having been born to U.S. citizen parent(s), you automatically become a U.S. citizen at birth if:

- You were born to two U.S. citizen parents and at least one of your parents had a residence in the United States or one if its outlying possessions. This residence had to have taken place prior to your birth; **or**
- You were born to parents, one of whom is an alien and the other a U.S. citizen who, prior to your birth, had been physically present in the United States or one of its outlying possessions for a period or periods totaling not less than five years, at least two of which were after the age of 14 years.

NOTE: To determine if you were born a U.S. citizen, USCIS must look at the law that was in effect at the time of your birth. The current law was enacted on November 14, 1986 and was last amended on February 27, 2001. If you were born before November 14, 1986, and believe you may be a U.S. citizen, you should contact USCIS by calling our National Customer Service Center **1-800-375-5283** or visiting our internet website at **<http://www.uscis.gov>**.

Who Should Not Use This Form?

- Persons who do not have a claim to citizenship either at the time of birth or by action of law.
- Stepchildren.
- Children who are not legitimate or who were not legitimated prior to their 16th birthday. (Except for children who were born abroad to an eligible U.S. citizen mother or eligible children who became citizens through the naturalization of their mother.)