
Chapter Six

The Interview

*I've been absolutely terrified my whole life
and I've never let it keep me from doing
a single thing that I wanted to do.*

—Georgia O'Keefe

In this Chapter:

- USCIS Interview Appointment Notice
- Documents to Bring to the Interview
- Tips for Interview Preparation
- People You Can Bring to the Interview
- Description of the Interview
- Sample Interview



Many applicants are afraid of the USCIS interview.

Still, most people pass it. This chapter outlines what to expect at the interview and how to prepare for it.

USCIS INTERVIEW APPOINTMENT NOTICE

You should get a notice in the mail telling you the time, date, and location for your upcoming interview. Generally it arrives two to six weeks before the interview. USCIS will also send a copy to your lawyer or accredited representative at his or her office if you have requested legal representation. Lawyers and accredited representatives must submit a *Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Representative* (Form G-28) to USCIS.

Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services		I-797C, Notice of Action	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA			
Request for Applicant to Appear for Naturalization Initial Interview		NOTICE DATE March 24, 2008	
CASE TYPE N400 Application For Naturalization		USCIS NO A [REDACTED]	
APPLICATION NUMBER LIN# [REDACTED]	RECEIVED DATE July 27, 2007	PRIORITY DATE July 27, 2007	PAGE 1 of 1
APPLICANT NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS c/o ALLISON J POSNER CATHOLIC LEGAL IMMIGRATION NETWORK STE 150 415 MICHIGAN AVE NE WASHINGTON DC 20017 [REDACTED]		Please come to: U.S. CITIZENSHIP & IMMIGRATION SERVICES 101 WEST CONGRESS PARKWAY CITIZENSHIP OFFICE ADDED CHICAGO IL 60605 On (Date): Wednesday, May 14, 2008 At (Time): 02:00 PM	
<p>You are hereby notified to appear for an interview on your Application for Naturalization at the date, time, and place indicated above. Waiting room capacity is limited. Please do not arrive any earlier than 30 minutes before your scheduled appointment time. The proceeding will take about two hours. If for any reason you cannot keep this appointment, return this letter immediately to the USCIS office address listed below with your explanation and a request for a new appointment; otherwise, no further action will be taken on your application.</p> <p>If you are applying for citizenship for yourself, you will be tested on your knowledge of the government and history of the United States. You will also be tested on reading, writing, and speaking English, unless on the day you filed your application, you have been living in the United States for a total of at least 20 years as a lawful permanent resident and are over 50 years old, or you have been living in the United States for a total of 15 years as a lawful permanent resident and are over 55 years old, or unless you have a medically determinable disability (you must have filed form N648 Medical Certification for Disability Exception, with your N400 Application for Naturalization).</p>			

Sample Appointment Notice

What if your interview appointment notice doesn't arrive?

You can check the status of your application on the USCIS website. Go to <http://uscis.gov> and click on "My Case is Pending." It can take a long time between when you submit your application and when you get an interview appointment. Ask a community immigration agency or your local USCIS office what is the average wait. If you have waited much longer than others, your application may be lost or delayed, and you should contact a community immigration agency for help. If you moved to a new USCIS district after you mailed your application, a delay may occur while USCIS transfers your file to the new district.

What if you have a serious disability or illness that prevents you from going to the USCIS office?

Send a letter requesting that USCIS conduct the interview in your home or other place of residence. This is an accommodation for your disability.

See Chapter 7, page 254 for more information.

What if you cannot attend your scheduled interview?

You should only change your interview date if there is a very important reason you cannot attend. If you need to change the date, you may have to wait several more months to get a new appointment.

To get a new date, send a letter to the District Director of the USCIS office where you are scheduled to be interviewed explaining in detail why you need the change. Include a copy of your appointment notice. Also, write on the outside of the envelope, "Request to Reschedule N-400 Interview Date." Send the letter by certified mail with a return receipt. Always include your alien registration number (A-number) on every letter.

What if you moved after you submitted your N-400?

It is very important to give USCIS your new address. You can call the USCIS Forms Line at 1-800-870-3676 and request an Alien's Change of Address Card (Form AR-11) or print the AR-11 from the USCIS website. The form is pre-printed with USCIS' address on it. You should also notify your local USCIS district office and your Service Center. Send the notification letters by certified mail, requesting a return receipt as proof they were received.

See Attachment A for a copy of Form AR-11.

The Form AR-11 informs USCIS of your name, A-number, date of birth, complete current address, and complete address at the time you filed your application. This may require USCIS to transfer your file to the new district and may delay your application. If you move to a new address within the same district, you should still inform USCIS, but there should be no delay in the processing of your application.

As an alternative to the Form AR-11, you can give USCIS your address by phone. Call the National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283. You can also use this number to make sure that USCIS has your correct address. Be sure to also send a letter to your local USCIS district office and your Service Center to notify them of your new address. This service is available in English and Spanish. USCIS will send you a confirmation of the new address by mail a few weeks later.

See Chapter 3, page 82 for a sample withdrawal request.

What if you want to stop your application?

If you want to stop or withdraw the processing of your citizenship application you can:

- Send your local USCIS district office a letter by certified mail requesting to withdraw your case. The District Director will approve or deny your request.
- Go to USCIS in person to request a withdrawal. The District Director has the authority to approve or deny your request.
- Fail to go to your interview. If you fail to appear for the interview and you fail to notify USCIS in writing of the reason for your absence within 30 days of the interview date, USCIS will close your file. You can re-open a closed file by submitting a written request to the District Director within one year from the date it was closed. After one year you must re-apply with a new N-400, including the fee.

DOCUMENTS TO BRING TO THE INTERVIEW

USCIS will send you a list of documents you must bring to the interview. Sometimes the USCIS officer will request additional documents at the interview. The following is a list of the documents USCIS may request. Bringing all of these documents will help you avoid returning for another appointment.

See Chapter 3, Attachment D for a full list of documents to bring to the interview.

You can also bring your completed N-400 to your interview for reference and bring a list of all of the changes since you filed your application. For example, you can write down a new address, a new job address, a marriage or divorce, children born, or trips you have taken outside the country. You can tell the officer, or just give the officer a written list.

Make sure all of your documents are organized so you can find them easily when the USCIS officer requests them. You might want to put them in separate folders and label them.

All documents which are not in English should include a translation into English by a person who knows both languages. The person should write that he or she is competent to translate and that the translation is accurate, using the following statement:

I, _____ certify that I am competent to translate from the _____ language to the English language. The above translation is a true and correct translation to the best of my knowledge.

(Signature)

You MUST BRING the following with you to the interview:

- This letter.
- Your Alien Registration Card (green card).
- Any evidence of Selective Service Registration.
- Your passport and/or any other documents you used in connection with any entries into the United States.
- Those items noted below which are applicable to you:

If applying for NATURALIZATION AS A SPOUSE of the United States Citizen;

- Your marriage certificate.
- Proof of death or divorce for each prior marriage of yourself or spouse.
- Your spouse's birth or naturalization certificate or certificate of citizenship.

If applying for NATURALIZATION as a member of the United States Armed Forces;

- Your discharge certificate, or form DD 214.

If copies of a document were submitted as evidence with your N400 application, the originals of those documents should be brought to the interview.

PLEASE keep this appointment, even if you don't not have all the items indicated above.

Sample Appointment Notice

Driver's License or State ID Card

Bring your driver's license or state ID card issued by your local Department of Motor Vehicles to help USCIS verify your identity.

Green Card

If you lost your green card, apply for a new one immediately. Call the USCIS Forms Line at 1-800-870-3676 or go to an immigration service program and ask for *Application to Replace Alien Registration Card* (Form I-90). The filing fee is \$370 (\$290 for the application plus \$80 for fingerprints). Bring a copy of the renewal receipt to the interview. The USCIS officer may want to hear a good explanation of why you do not have your green card. If your green card was stolen, the officer may want to see a police report that you filed reporting the theft.

All green cards issued by USCIS since 1989 have an expiration date on the front. They expire after 10 years. If your green card is expiring, you may apply for citizenship instead of paying \$370 to renew the green card. In this case, you must file your citizenship application *at least six months* before the expiration date. If you apply for citizenship *less than six months* before the expiration date, then you still must renew your green card and pay the \$370 fee. Call the USCIS National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283 for more information on how to renew your expiring green card.

The Form I-90 can be filed electronically through the USCIS website. For more information, go to: <http://uscis.gov/>.

Certified Marriage and/or Divorce Decrees for All Marriages

If you were married more than once, you may be asked to provide marriage and divorce documents as evidence that you were not married to more than one person at the same time. You will also need to provide a marriage certificate if you are applying as the spouse of a U.S. citizen.

If you were married or divorced in the United States these documents are usually available from the Clerk of Court in the county where the marriage license or divorce decree was issued. It might also be in the state court of the Division of Vital Records and Statistics in the state capital city. The certificate should be notarized with a stamp or seal.

If you were married or divorced in another country and have a copy of the document issued in a language other than English, it must be accompanied by an English translation. If you do not have a marriage or divorce document, you need to get one from your country. The State Department's Foreign Affairs Manual lists what documents are available within different countries. If you cannot get the documents, you can get a sworn affidavit from friends or relatives who knew you in your country. If your native country accepts religious documents as legal, you can get a sworn affidavit from the religious person who conducted your ceremony.

See Attachment B for a sample affidavit.

Passports or Travel Documents

A passport or travel document provides a record of any trips you made outside the United States.

Federal Tax Returns

If you ever failed to file a tax return when required or have any federal, state, or local taxes that are overdue, you will need to bring copies of all correspondence with the IRS about your tax return and proof that you have paid, or made arrangements to pay, any taxes owed.

If your tax returns are lost, you can request a transcript of your tax returns from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) by filing IRS Form 4506-T, available on the IRS website at <http://www.irs.gov>, or by calling 1-800-829-1040. Transcripts are usually available for the current and past three years. There is no charge for a transcript, and you should receive it within 10 business days after your request is received.

A tax return transcript shows most line items from the original return. It does not reflect changes you or the IRS made after filing. An advantage of an IRS transcript is that it is more official than your own copies and proves actual filing.

If you need tax return information older than three years, you can file IRS Form 4506 to request a copy of your tax return. Copies are usually available for returns filed in the current and past six years. The fee is \$39 for each tax year requested, and it takes up to 60 days to process your request.

If you have been outside the United States on a trip that lasted six months or more since becoming a permanent resident, you need to bring an original IRS letter 1722 to show that you filed taxes as a resident. The Letter 1722 is a summary of your tax returns. To request this letter, call 1-800-829-1040.

Proof of Child Support

If you have a minor child who does not live with you, bring evidence that you are paying child support. This is especially important if you have been ordered by a court to pay. Bring check stubs, receipts, or other proof of payment. If there are no financial documents to verify payment, you can bring a notarized affidavit from the person who receives money for the child stating that you have made your regular payments. If your child lives outside the United States, you can also bring letters stating that your child has received money or goods as support. The letter, preferably notarized, can be from family members or friends of the child who can verify the claim of payments.


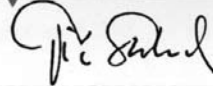

Proof of Registration for Selective Service

USCIS requires proof of registration with the Selective Service only for men who are of a certain age.

Who is required to register: Men born after 1960 who were living in the United States between their 18th and 26th birthdays as legal residents or undocumented residents.

How to show proof of registration: If you registered, bring your registration card. If you have lost your Selective Service registration number, you can obtain written confirmation from the Selective Service by phone, sending a written request, or making a request from the Selective Service web page.

How males can register: If you have not registered and it is before your 26th birthday, register immediately at the post office, by mail, on-line via the internet, through Federal Student Aid Programs' Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, or at many high schools.

Registration Acknowledgment Card		SSS Form 3A (Aug98)	
SELECTIVE SERVICE NUMBER	DATE OF BIRTH	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	LAST ACTION DATE
77-0000212-7	05-16-77	431-35-6054	04-03-97
NAME AND CURRENT ADDRESS		The Selective Service System thanks you for registering. This form is your official Registration Acknowledgment Card. Tear it out and safeguard it as your proof of having registered.	
LINDSAY CALVIN JOHNSON RT 1 FALL BRANCH RD BLOUNTVILLE, TN 37617		DIRECTOR	
 ▲ SIGNATURE OF REGISTRANT			
Service Opportunities: The U.S. Army and Army Reserve have full and part-time opportunities available. Skill training and up to \$50,000 for college. Call 1-800-USA-ARMY or visit the website at www.goarmy.com .		 Serve America! Find out how you can serve your country right now... U.S. Armed Forces For information on the U.S. Armed Forces, visit your local recruiter or call 1-800-893-LEAD.	
<small>☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1999-746-736</small>			

Sample Proof of Registration Card

Registering by mail: You can obtain a “mail-back” registration form from any U.S. Post Office. You fill it out, sign it, add postage, and mail it to the Selective Service.

Note: After registering, you are required to notify the Selective Service of any change in your registration information, such as a change of address, within ten days. This is required until January 1 of the year you turn 26.

Registering via the Internet: Enter your personal information on-line with the Selective Service. Within 2 weeks, you will receive a personalized registration card in the mail. Check that the information on the card is correct. Keep this document in a safe place as proof of registration.

What to do if you are over age 26 and did not register: If you should have registered and did not before your 26th birthday, you will need to show that your failure to register was not knowing or willful. You must state that you were unaware of the requirement at that time. Sometimes the Selective Service has a record of the fact that notification about the requirement was sent to you.

- Contact the Selective Service to request a status information letter to bring to the interview. It takes between 30 and 60 days to get the letter.
- Prepare a statement to bring to the interview explaining the reason you did not register. For example:

*I did not know about the requirement to register for the Selective Service.
I would have registered if I had known about the requirement.*

Communicating with the Selective Service

Internet: <http://www.sss.gov>

Phone: 1-847-688-6888

Office Hours: Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Central Standard Time

Address: Selective Service System
P.O. Box 94638
Palatine, IL 60094-4638

*See Attachment C
for a sample status
information letter.*

Requesting a status information letter: You can request a status information letter by mail or by phone at the same number you call to register.

Requesting a status information letter by phone: When you first call the Selective Service, a machine will answer and give you a number of different options. Do not press any numbers. Wait for an operator to come on the phone to assist you. Spanish speaking operators are available. Ask for a status information letter.

- You will be asked for your name, date of birth, and social security number so the operator can check to see if you are already registered.
- You will be asked a series of questions to determine if you were required to register for the Selective Service.
- You may be asked to submit certain documents, for example showing when you entered the United States.
- If you were required to register, you will be sent a questionnaire by mail. Fill out the questionnaire, make a copy, and return it to the Selective Service.
- You will be sent a status information letter.

Requesting a status information letter by mail: Describe in detail why you did not register and provide any relevant documents. Include your name, social security number, date of birth, and return address. Or, you can fill out and mail the status information request form on the Selective Service website at <http://www.sss.gov/FSmen.htm>.



Documentation of Criminal History

USCIS submits the fingerprints of each citizenship applicant to the FBI. A record is returned to USCIS with any arrests which the FBI has in its files for that person. Because the files are searched by fingerprints, the FBI search will generate “hits” even if you were arrested under a different name or in a different state. The FBI report contains even minor arrests which did not lead to official charges. You are required to provide the original record or “certified dispositions” showing the outcome of every arrest, no matter how minor or old.

Caution: If you have any kind of arrest record, talk to a lawyer or accredited representative before you apply.

To obtain a disposition, you need to request it in person or by mail from the county court house where the arrest took place. For arrests or convictions close to where you live now, look for the records department of the court.

*See Chapter 2,
page 27
for more
information.*

You should call first and find out what kind of information the court requires to issue a disposition. Generally, the courts require identification, name, date of birth, date of the arrest, and a case number. The fees for certified dispositions are usually from \$5.00 to \$15.00. To obtain a disposition by mail, call the records department of the court and ask for the requirements.

Sometimes the court may have already destroyed the record. Courts are only required to keep records for a specific period of time and generally destroy old records once that period of time has expired. In this case, you should get a “certified notice of non-existence” from the arresting law enforcement agency (police department) and court. Remember, although erased at the local level, the FBI and the state will still have the record.

Other Sources for Records

For arrests where no charges were filed, you may need to get a document from the police department where you were arrested. In most areas, a record of any arrest is called the Access and Review report. The police station takes your fingerprints to produce the Access and Review report. This report can help find an unknown case number when the court cannot find your disposition. If the Access and Review search produces no record, the police department should provide a letter stating that no arrests were found.

You can also get a copy of your state criminal record. Contact your local law enforcement agency's information officer to request the mailing and charge information. The state record will not contain federal arrests or convictions from other states.



The FBI fingerprint search will show all arrests, regardless of the seriousness of the crime, the state where it was committed, guilt or innocence, or length of time since the arrest.

TIPS FOR INTERVIEW PREPARATION

Test Preparation

You should know the interview information so well that you do not have to think very hard to remember it. Review the following materials:

- Civics (History and Government) Questions for the Test (See Chapter 5, Attachment D)
- Completed N-400
- Tips During the Interview (See page 227)
- Sample Interview (See page 233)

Test review classes may be offered through a community agency or adult school.

Dressing for the Interview

You should wear clothes that are clean and pressed. This shows respect for the USCIS officer. Men can wear a shirt and pants; women a blouse or sweater with a skirt or pants. It is important that your clothes are comfortable as you may have to wait a long time for your interview.

Transportation to the Interview

Arrive early. Know the exact location in advance to avoid getting lost. If you are driving, remember to plan extra time for rush hour traffic, the possibility of road construction, and difficulty finding a parking space.

Self-Confidence

Everyone is nervous at the citizenship interview. It is an important day in your life. People do better when they are relaxed. Believe in your abilities by remembering what you have accomplished since arriving in the United States and what you have contributed to this country.



PEOPLE YOU CAN BRING TO THE INTERVIEW

An Interpreter

You can bring your own interpreter with you if you qualify for the exemption that allows you to use your native language at the interview. Your interpreter can be someone from a community agency, a friend, or a family member. USCIS may accept your interpreter, provide a different interpreter, or use a telephone interpreter service. You can also request in advance to use your own interpreter as an accommodation for a disability. This will ensure that the interpreter is someone you feel comfortable with or who speaks your dialect.

You may want to talk with your interpreter ahead of time to agree on how certain difficult words will be translated. For example: permanent resident, Bill of Rights, and judiciary.

Both the applicant and the interpreter take the oath to tell the truth at the beginning of the interview. This is an oath under the law and must be respected.

If the USCIS officer suspects that the interpreter is breaking any rules, he or she will be asked to leave and USCIS will provide another interpreter. Your interview may be rescheduled.

Advice to interpreters:

- Translate exactly what the USCIS officer or applicant says. Do not coach, add anything, or explain. Do not give helpful hints to the applicant during the interview.
- Speak only when interpreting. When not interpreting, sit quietly. Do not ask questions or interfere with the interview in any way.

A Lawyer or Accredited Representative

You can be represented at the interview only if you sent a *Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Representative* (Form G-28) with your application or you bring the G-28 to the interview.

See Chapter 3, page 53 for more information.

Your representative can:

- privately consult with you where USCIS cannot hear the conversation;
- object to inappropriate questions that invade your right to privacy or should not be asked because they are not relevant to naturalization;
- be your legal advocate and point out where the USCIS officer may be wrong in how he or she is interpreting the facts of the law;
- talk to the Supervisor of Naturalization if the officer is not behaving appropriately or makes a mistake in interpreting the facts of the law that he or she is unwilling to correct; and
- explain your accommodation needs to the USCIS officer at the beginning of the interview.

A Family Member or Agency Staff Person

If you have a disability, you may request as an accommodation to bring a family member, legal guardian, or community agency staff person with you. The person can support your special physical or emotional needs.

See Chapter 7, page 254 for more information on accommodations.



DESCRIPTION OF THE INTERVIEW

Tips During the Interview

Know Your USCIS Officer by Name and Badge Number

It is important to always ask the officer for his or her name and badge number. Write this down and take it home with you. This will allow you to follow up with any specific problems or complaints.

Eye Contact

Look into the eyes of the USCIS officer when you talk to show you are honest. Direct eye contact is generally expected in the United States.

How to Speak

Talk clearly so that the USCIS officer can understand you. Do not speak very soft or very loud. Likewise, do not speak too fast or too slow.

How to Answer Questions

Answer only the questions asked of you. Answer the questions briefly, honestly, and directly.

Your Posture

Sit up straight and proud during the interview. This shows the USCIS officer you are confident. It can also help you feel more confident about yourself.

What to Say if You Do Not Understand a Question

Please, can you repeat that?

Please, can you speak louder?

Please, can you speak slowly?

Please, can you repeat that in different words?

When Your USCIS Officer is Not Friendly

Sometimes a USCIS officer will appear rude or unfriendly. Sometimes this is his or her way to be professional. Do not let the attitude of the officer get in the way of your doing well. If the officer is very rude, you may want to complain to the supervisor.

What to Say if You Cannot Remember the Answer to a Question

Let me think about it for a moment. I'm sure I can answer that question. I studied a lot, but I can't remember the answer to that question now. Can you ask me another one?

When to Respond to Questions

Wait until the USCIS officer has finished asking you a question to respond. Do not interrupt the officer. However, do not wait too long because the officer may think you do not speak English or know the answer. Let the officer know if you need time to think about it.

USCIS Officer: Expectations and Problems

What You Should Expect of Your USCIS Officer

You should expect your officer to be professional and courteous, to be fair and consistent, and to follow standard procedures and the law. If asked, your officer should tell you his or her name and badge number, repeat questions, and allow you to speak to a supervisor.

What Your USCIS Officer Should Expect of You

You should treat the USCIS officer with courtesy and respect, be prepared for your test, have your documents available, and follow your USCIS officer's instructions. If your case is denied or continued, be polite and ask for details of what you should do next.

What to Do if You Have Problems During the Interview

You should request to speak with a supervisor if your USCIS officer:

- wrongly denies your application, misinterpreting law or fact;
- is very rude or insensitive;
- is requesting information that is not appropriate, for example, he or she wants to know why you got public benefits and there is no evidence of fraud; or
- denies your request for reasonable accommodations for a disability.

If a supervisor is unavailable or does not respond, you may write a letter to the USCIS District Director explaining your complaint in detail. This will not affect your eligibility for naturalization. You can also call the USCIS customer service line at 1-800-375-5283 to make a complaint.

Beginning the Interview

Truth Oath

The interview generally begins when the USCIS officer calls your name. The officer or adjudicator will call you to his or her office. You may be asked to remain standing or to stand up and raise your right hand. The USCIS officer asks you to take an oath that you will tell the truth during your interview.

USCIS: Please remain standing and raise your right hand. Do you promise to tell the truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

You: Yes, I do.

USCIS: Do you swear that all the information on your application, the documents you submitted and the information you give today is the truth?

You: Yes, I do.

Understanding the Oath

The officer may want to check that you understood the oath. It is a legal agreement to tell the truth. If you lie after taking the oath, you may not be able to be a citizen at this time.

USCIS: Do you understand what an oath means?

You: Yes, it is a promise to tell the truth.

Checking Identification

The officer will check your identity by asking for your green card, your native country passport, travel document, or another ID (driver's license or state ID).

USCIS: Can I see your resident alien card, passport, and other types of photo identification?

adjudicator = Someone who officially makes changes or adjustments to your immigration status. *"The USCIS adjudicator who interviewed me was very kind."*

Small Talk

The officer may talk with you about everyday life. This is called “small talk.” The purpose is to see if you understand basic English. Sometimes if you cannot answer basic “small talk” questions, the USCIS officer will end the interview.

Weather

How’s the weather outside?

Is it still raining?

Do you like this weather?

Transportation

Did you have any problems getting here?

How was the traffic?

How did you get here?

Did you have any problems finding parking?

USCIS Office

Have you been waiting a long time to talk to me today?

Have you been waiting long?

How long have you been waiting?

Health

How are you feeling today?

Reason for Interview

The officer may ask you a question to see if you understand the reason for your interview.

USCIS: Why are you here today?

You: I’m here for my citizenship interview and test. I want to become an American citizen.

Reason for Becoming a Citizen

The officer may ask you why you want to become a United States citizen. Do not take this question lightly. Have a serious answer prepared.

USCIS: Why do you want to become a citizen?

You: I want to vote and bring my family to live in the United States.

Name Change

When you become a United States citizen you can legally change your name. If you do, you will need to fill out Section D in Part 1 of the N-400 application form.

USCIS: You can legally change your name if you take the oath in front of a judge. Do you want to change your name when you become a United States citizen?

You: Yes, I would like to change it please.

A newly married woman may want to keep her family name, change it to her husband's name, or hyphenate it. For example, if Nancy Jones marries Tom Smith, she may be Nancy Jones, Nancy Smith, or Nancy Jones-Smith.



Finishing the Interview

Towards the end of the interview, the officer will often ask you to sign the front of your two naturalization photos. One of these will go on the front of your naturalization certificate.

USCIS will tell you the results of your interview, whether you passed, failed, or will be continued. If you fail a section, the officer may stop the interview and tell you there is a problem.

See Chapter 3, page 80 for more information.

The Test

USCIS will give you Form N-652, telling you if you passed or failed the English and civics tests. If you failed, you will be tested later only on the sections you failed, not the whole test.

See Attachment D for a copy of Form N-652.

Case Continued

Sometimes USCIS will tell you to come back for a second interview because you need to bring additional documents. USCIS will give you Form N-14, telling you what additional information you need. You may be asked to mail the papers or to bring them to your next interview. Only mail copies, not the originals. Include certified English translations when necessary.

See Attachment E for a copy of Form N-14.

Case Withdrawn

Sometimes USCIS will ask you if you want to withdraw your application. Usually this is because you do not meet one of the requirements. For example, your English is too limited or you do not meet the residency requirement.

See Chapter 3, page 82 for a sample withdrawal request.

Case Denied

You will receive a written notice in the mail explaining why you were denied. In this case you will have to appeal or re-apply when eligible.

See Attachment F for a sample denial notice.

SAMPLE INTERVIEW

USCIS: How are you today?

You:

USCIS: Have you been waiting long?

You:

USCIS: Did you have any problems getting here this morning?

You:

USCIS: OK. Let's begin the interview. Please stand up and raise your right hand. Do you promise to tell the truth and nothing but the truth so help you God?

You:

USCIS: You may sit down.

You:

USCIS: Do you know what an oath is?

You:

USCIS: Now may I see your resident alien card, passport and all other identification you brought with you today?

You:

USCIS: Do you understand why you are here today?

You:

USCIS: Why do you want to become an American citizen?

You:

USCIS: By law you can change your name when you become naturalized. Would you like to change your name?

You:

USCIS: Now we're going to go over your N-400 to see if there have been any changes since you submitted it to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Do you still live at the same address?

You:

USCIS: What is your name?

You:

USCIS: What is your birthday?

You:

USCIS: Where were you born?

You:

USCIS: When did you become a permanent resident?

You:

USCIS: How many times have you left the United States since you became a permanent resident?

You:

USCIS: Were any of your trips for six months or more?

You:

USCIS: What were your reasons for leaving the country?

You:

USCIS: How long have you lived at your current address?

You:

USCIS: Are you still working?

You:

USCIS: Where?

You:

USCIS: Are you still married?

You:

USCIS: What is the total number of children born to you?

You:

USCIS: Have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

You:

USCIS: Do you pay your taxes to the government every year?

You:

USCIS: Have you paid the IRS everything you owe?

You:

USCIS: Have you ever been deported?

You:

USCIS: Did you ever say you were a United States citizen?

You:

USCIS: Are you currently under deportation proceedings?

You:

USCIS: Do you believe in the Constitution and form of government of the United States?

You:

USCIS: Will you help defend America?

You:

USCIS: Are you willing to take the full Oath of Allegiance to the U.S.?

You:

USCIS: Do you believe in democracy?

You:

USCIS: Will you fight for America?

You:

USCIS: Are you a member of any organization?

You:

USCIS: Now, I'm going to ask you a few questions about United States history and government. Why does the flag have 50 stars?

You:

USCIS: What was one important thing that Abraham Lincoln did?

You:

USCIS: What are the two rights only for United States citizens?

You:

USCIS: How many justices are on the Supreme Court?

You:

USCIS: What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do?

You:

USCIS: In what month do we vote for the President?

You:

USCIS: What is one right or freedom from the First Amendment?

You:

USCIS: Who is one of your state's U.S. Senators?

You:

USCIS: What is the name of the Vice President of the United States now?

You:

USCIS: What ocean is on the East Coast of the United States?

You:

USCIS: Please read this sentence out loud.

You:

USCIS: Now I'm going to dictate a sentence to you. Please write it here.
"Washington, DC is the capital of the United States."

You:

USCIS: Good, please sign your name here. We will send you a notice for your swearing-in ceremony in the mail.

You: Does this mean I'm approved?

USCIS: Yes. Congratulations.

OMB No. 1615-0007; Expires 08/31/08

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

AR-11, Alien's Change of Address Card

Name (Last in CAPS)	(First Name)	(Middle Name)	I am in the United States as a:	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Visitor	<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent Resident
			<input type="checkbox"/> Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ (Specify)
Country of Citizenship	Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)		Copy Number From Alien Card	
A				
Present Address (Street or Rural Route)	(City or Post Office)		(State)	(Zip Code)
(If the above address is temporary) I expect to remain there _____ Years _____ Months				
Last Address (Street or Rural Route)	(City or Post Office)		(State)	(Zip Code)
I work for or attend school at: (Employer's Name or Name of School)				
(Street Address or Rural Route)	(City or Post Office)		(State)	(Zip Code)
Port of Entry Into U.S.	Date of Entry Into U.S. (mm/dd/yyyy)	If not a Permanent Resident, my stay in the U.S. expires on: (Date - mm/dd/yyyy)		
Signature	Date (mm/dd/yyyy)			

Form AR-11 (Rev. 01/20/06) Y

AR-11, Alien's Change of Address Card

This card is to be used by all aliens to report a change of address within ten days of such change. The collection of this information is required by Section 265 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1305). The data is used by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for statistical and record purposes and may be furnished to Federal, State, local and foreign law enforcement officials. Failure to report a change of address is punishable by fine or imprisonment and/or removal.

ADVISORY: This card is not evidence of identity, age or status claimed.

Public Reporting Burden. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, an agency may not conduct or sponsor an information collection and a person is not required to respond to an information collection unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. We try to create forms and instructions that are accurate, can be easily understood and that impose the least possible burden on you to provide us with information. Often this is difficult because some immigration laws are very complex. This collection of information is estimated to average five minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including reducing this burden to: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Regulatory Management Division, 111 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20529. **Do not mail your completed form to this Washington, D.C. address.**

Mail Your Form to the Address Shown Below:

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Change of Address
P.O. Box 7134
London, KY 40742-7134

For commercial overnight or fast freight
Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Change of Address
1084-I South Laurel Road
London, KY 40742-7134

AFFIDAVIT FOR MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

FULL NAME OF HUSBAND : _____
 DATE OF BIRTH : _____
 PLACE OF BIRTH : _____
 FATHER'S NAME : _____
 MOTHER'S NAME : _____

 FULL NAME OF WIFE : _____
 DATE OF BIRTH : _____
 PLACE OF BIRTH : _____
 FATHER'S NAME : _____
 MOTHER'S NAME : _____

 DATE OF MARRIAGE : _____
 PLACE OF MARRIAGE : _____

TESTIMONY:

I, _____, a _____ (immigration status), # _____ born on ____/____/____ in _____, residing at _____, do hereby affirm under penalty of perjury that all the information stated above for _____, whose relationship to me is that of _____, is true and correct to the best of knowledge.

SIGNED _____

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

On ____/____/____, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for this state, personally appeared _____ known to me or satisfactorily proven, to within instrument and acknowledged that he/she executed the same.

SIGNED _____
 Notary Public



Selective Service System

<http://www.sss.gov>

March 22, 1999

SIL

Mr. Lindsay Calvin Johnson
Rt. 1 Fall Branch Rd.
Blountville, TN 37617

Dear Mr. Johnson:

We have received your inquiry concerning your eligibility for a right, benefit, or privilege which is subject to your registration with the Selective Service System. A search of our files, and an examination of the information you provided reveal that you were required to register with Selective Service, but have not registered.

Section 12(g) of the Military Selective Service Act (50 App. U.S.C. 462(g)) reads as follows:

"(g) A person may not be denied a right, privilege, or benefit under Federal law by reason of failure to present himself for and submit to registration, under section 3 (of the Military Selective Service Act) if -
(1) the requirement for the person to so register has terminated or become inapplicable to the person, and
(2) the person shows by a preponderance of the evidence that their failure to register was not a knowing and willful failure to register."

The purpose of this provision is to clarify that a non-registrant is not to be denied any Federal benefit if he can demonstrate that his failure to register was not knowing or willful.

Any explanation to justify your failure to register must be made to the agency administering the right, benefit, or privilege you seek. You should submit this letter to them for consideration along with a copy of any documentation you believe may be helpful to your case. The final decision regarding your eligibility is within the authority of that agency.

Sincerely,

Lyle A. Wilkes
Director, Data Management Center

pgm/pgm
431-35-6054
RD:LXDB R 6/98

**For USCIS Internal
Use Only**Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services**N-652, Naturalization Interview Results**

A#: _____

On _____, you were interviewed by USCIS officer _____.

- ☐ You passed the tests of English and U.S. history and government.
- ☐ You passed the tests of U.S. history and government and the English language requirement was waived.
- ☐ USCIS has accepted your request for a Disability Exception. You are exempted from the requirement to demonstrate English language ability and/or a knowledge of U.S. history and government.
- ☐ You will be given another opportunity to be tested on your ability to _____ speak/_____ read/_____ write _____ English.
- ☐ You will be given another opportunity to be tested on your knowledge of U.S. history and government.
- ☐ Please follow the instructions on Form N-14.
- ☐ USCIS will send you a written decision about your application.
- ☐ You did not pass the second and final test of your _____ English ability/ _____ knowledge of U.S. history and government. You will not be rescheduled for another interview for this Form N-400. USCIS will send you a written decision about your application.

A) _____ **Congratulations! Your application has been recommended for approval.** At this time it appears that you have established your eligibility for naturalization. If final approval is granted, you will be notified when and where to report for the Oath Ceremony.

B) _____ **A decision cannot yet be made about your application.**

It is very important that you:

- ☒ Notify USCIS if you change your address
- ☒ Come to any scheduled interview.
- ☒ Submit all requested documents.
- ☒ Send any questions about this application in writing to the officer named above. Include your full name, Alien Registration Number (A#), and a copy of this paper.
- ☒ Go to any Oath Ceremony that you are scheduled to attend.
- ☒ Notify USCIS as soon as possible in writing if you cannot come to any scheduled interview or Oath Ceremony. Include a copy of this paper and a copy of the scheduling notice.

NOTE: Please be advised that under section 336 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, you have the right to request a hearing before an immigration officer if your application is denied, or before the U.S. district court if USCIS had not made a determination on your application within 120 days of the date of your examination.

**For USCIS Internal
Use Only**

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

**N-14, Request for Additional
Information, Documents or Forms****File No.:** _____**Date:** _____**Officer:** _____

Our examination of your Form N-400, Application for Naturalization, shows that additional information, documents or forms are needed before your application can be acted upon. **Please return this letter with the requested information and/or documents/forms by:**

Advisory to Applicant:

Failure to comply with this request may result in the denial of your application.

**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

Direct all responses by mail to the office listed below:
U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES
842 Virginia Run Cove # Room 121
Memphis TN 38122

[REDACTED]

Refer to this file: SSC [REDACTED]
Alien Number: A [REDACTED]
Date: June 5, 2008

DECISION

On April 10, 2008, you appeared for an examination of your application for naturalization, which was filed in accordance with Section 316(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Pursuant to the investigation and examination of your application it is determined that you are ineligible for naturalization for the following reason(s):

See Attachment(s)

If you desire to request a review hearing on this decision pursuant to Section 336(a) of the Act, you must file a request for a hearing within 30 Days of the date of this notice. If no request for hearing is filed within the time allowed, this decision is final. A request for hearing may be made to the District Director, with the Immigration and Naturalization office which made the decision, on Form N-336, Request for Hearing on a Decision in Naturalization Proceedings under Section 336 of the Act, together with a fee of \$605. A brief or other written statement in support of your request may be submitted with the Request for Hearing.

Sincerely,

Diane Campbell

Diane Campbell
Field Office Director
Memphis, Tennessee

DC/rad

* [REDACTED] *

Form N-335

Attachment(s) to Form N-335

Applicant: [REDACTED]
Application for Naturalization, Form N-400
Alien Number: A [REDACTED]
Application ID: SSC* [REDACTED]

Your application is hereby denied in accordance with the Title 8 Code of Federal Regulations Section(s) listed below:

Notice of Decision

On January 25, 2005, you filed an Application for Naturalization (N-400) in accordance with Section 316 of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Pursuant to the investigation of your application it is determined that you are ineligible for this benefit for the following reason(s):

Section 312 of the INA states that no person except as otherwise provided shall hereafter be naturalized as a citizen of the United States who cannot demonstrate (1) an understanding of the English language, including an ability to read, write, and speak words in ordinary usage in the English language; and (2) a knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals of the history and of the principles and form of government of the United States.

On October 10, 2007, you appeared for your initial interview. At that interview, you failed to establish the ability to speak English. At that interview, you presented Form N-648, Medical Certification for Disability Exceptions. An "Audiological Evaluation with Brief Report" was submitted which states, "...mild to moderate mixed hearing loss." That N-648 was rejected as insufficient and therefore failed to establish an exemption from the requirement to speak, read, and write the English language, as well as to present knowledge of the history and government of the United States.

On January 8, 2008, you appeared for another interview where you again presented Form N-648 requesting an exemption from the language requirements and the history and government testing requirements. This N-648 stated your hearing loss, "makes it very difficult for her to hear English." This was not sufficient to exempt you from the English language requirements. You were presented with Form N-14, which requested that your physician address whether you would be able to learn information in your own language.

On April 9, 2008, you appeared for your final interview. At that time you presented your third Form N-648. The diagnosis of disability explains that [REDACTED] can not hear in her left ear and wears a hearing aid in her right. It also explains that she can understand speech in [REDACTED]. For the connection between disability and/or impairments the physician states that [REDACTED] can not learn English because she can not hear it. It further explains that she can not learn facts about United States history and civics. The instructions state in this part, "...An applicant's difficulty in fulfilling the requirements (obtaining knowledge of the fundamentals of U.S. history and civics) is not sufficient to support a waiver."

Since none of the medical waivers were sufficient to exempt you from the language requirements, it is the opinion of the Service that you have failed to establish the basic requirements to become a citizen of the United States. Therefore, it is the decision of the Service that you have failed to establish your eligibility for naturalization and your case is hereby DENIED.