

REVISED FORM N-400 APPLICATION FOR NATURALIZATION



U.S. Citizenship
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Services

Stakeholder Presentation

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW



1. BACKGROUND
2. ENHANCEMENTS
3. IMPLEMENTATION
4. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
5. RESOURCES



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BACKGROUND

Naturalization is the process by which U.S. citizenship is granted to a foreign citizen or national.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) uses the Application for Naturalization, Form N-400, and the naturalization interview to determine whether an applicant is eligible for U.S. citizenship.



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BACKGROUND *(cont'd)*

In 2012, USCIS launched a forms improvement initiative to highlight our ongoing effort to:

- Enhance our forms,
- Provide the most efficient means for collecting and processing required data, and
- Make the forms easier for customers to submit.



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BACKGROUND *(cont'd)*

Although USCIS has issued a revised version of the N-400, please note:

- *The naturalization eligibility requirements have not changed.*
- *The filing fee remains the same.*

For additional information on the naturalization eligibility requirements, please reference “A Guide to Naturalization” which can be found at

www.uscis.gov/natzguide.



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ENHANCEMENTS:

1. IMPROVED INSTRUCTIONS

USCIS has improved the N-400 Instructions which now highlight and clearly label:

- General Eligibility Requirements,
- Naturalization Testing Exemptions, and
- Certain sections that are not to be completed until the time of the interview.

New additions to N-400 instructions include:

- Specific information for members of the Armed Forces,
- Information explaining the requirements for early filing, and
- An expanded Required Evidence section.



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ENHANCEMENTS:

2. NEW FORMAT

The form employs a more efficient and well-organized format to help:

- Simplify the application,
- Facilitate data capture using 2D barcode technology, which leads to more accurate data capture, and
- Reduce the Form N-400 rejection rate at intake.

EXAMPLE: **Current N-400 (Data Tables)**

Write your USCIS A-Number here:
A

C. Daytime Phone Number *(If any)*
()

Revised N-400 (User Friendly)

A-

<input type="text"/>									
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Daytime Phone Number
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ENHANCEMENTS:

3. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS CLARIFIED ON THE FORM

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Part 1. Information About Your Eligibility *(Check only one box or your Form N-400 may be delayed)*

Enter Your 9 Digit A-Number:
▶ A-

You are at least 18 years old and

- Have been a Permanent Resident of the United States for at least 5 years.
- Have been a Permanent Resident of the United States for at least 3 years. In addition, you have been married to and living with the same U.S. citizen spouse for the last 3 years, and your spouse has been a U.S. citizen for the last 3 years at the time of filing your Form N-400.
- Are a 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 Immigration and Nationality Act)*
- Are applying on the basis of qualifying military service.
- Other (explain):



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ENHANCEMENTS:

3. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS CLARIFIED ON THE FORM *(cont'd)*

ENGLISH LANGUAGE EXEMPTIONS

12. Exemptions from the English Language Test

- A. Are you 50 years of age or older and have you lived in the United States as a Permanent Resident for periods totaling at least 20 years at the time of filing your Form N-400? Yes No
- B. Are you 55 years of age or older and have you lived in the United States as a Permanent Resident for periods totaling at least 15 years at the time of filing your Form N-400? Yes No
- C. Are you 65 years of age or older and have you lived in the United States as a Permanent Resident for periods totaling at least 20 years at the time of filing your Form N-400? *(If you meet this requirement, you will also be given a simplified version of the civics test.)* Yes No



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ENHANCEMENTS:

3. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS CLARIFIED ON THE FORM (cont'd) ELIGIBLE THROUGH DERIVATION OR NATURALIZATION?

Part 5. Information About Your Parents			A-	
<p>If your biological or legally adoptive mother or father is a U.S. citizen by birth, or naturalized before you reached your 18th birthday, you may already be a U.S. citizen. Visit the USCIS Web site at www.uscis.gov for further information on this topic before you consider filing Form N-400.</p>				
1.	Were your parents married before your 18th birthday?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
2.	Is your mother a U.S. citizen?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<p>If "Yes," complete the following information.</p>				
A. Current Legal Name of U.S. Citizen Mother				
Mother's Family Name (Last Name)			Mother's Given Name (First Name)	Mother's Middle Name (if applicable)
<input type="text"/>			<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
B. Mother's Country of Birth			C. Mother's Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	
<input type="text"/>			<input type="text"/>	
3.	Is your father a U.S. citizen?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<p>If "Yes," complete the information below.</p>				
A. Current Legal Name of U.S. Citizen Father				
Father's Family Name (Last Name)			Father's Given Name (First Name)	Father's Middle Name (if applicable)
<input type="text"/>			<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
B. Father's Country of Birth			C. Father's Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	
<input type="text"/>			<input type="text"/>	



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ENHANCEMENTS:

4. NATIONAL SECURITY AND GOOD MORAL CHARACTER

Additional questions found on the revised form are based on legal requirements involving applicant eligibility related to national security and good moral character.

These additional questions stem from the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (IRTPA) of 2004 and the Child Soldier Accountability Act of 2008.



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ENHANCEMENTS:

4. NATIONAL SECURITY AND GOOD MORAL CHARACTER (cont'd)

14. Were you ever involved in any way with any of the following:

- A. Genocide?
- B. Torture?
- C. Killing, or trying to kill, someone?
- D. Badly hurting, or trying to hurt, a person on purpose?
- E. Forcing, or trying to force, someone to have any kind of sexual contact or relations?
- F. Not letting someone practice his or her religion?

15. Were you ever a member of, or did you ever serve in, help, or otherwise participate in, any of the following groups:

- A. Military unit?
- B. Paramilitary unit? *(a group of people who act like a military group but are not part of the official military)*
- C. Police unit?
- D. Self-defense unit?
- E. Vigilante unit? *(a group of people who act like the police, but are not part of the official police)*
- F. Rebel group?
- G. Guerrilla group? *(a group of people who use weapons against or otherwise physically attack the military, police, government, or other people)*
- H. Militia? *(an army of people, not part of the official military)*
- I. Insurgent organization? *(a group that uses weapons and fights against a government)*



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ENHANCEMENTS:

4. NATIONAL SECURITY AND GOOD MORAL CHARACTER *(cont'd)*

17. Were you ever a part of any group, or did you ever help any group, unit, or organization that used a weapon against any person, or threatened to do so?
 - A. If "Yes," when you were part of this group, or when you helped this group, did you ever use a weapon against another person?
 - B. If "Yes," when you were part of this group, or when you helped this group, did you ever tell another person that you would use a weapon against that person?
18. Did you ever sell, give, or provide weapons to any person, or help another person sell, give, or provide weapons to any person?
 - A. If "Yes," did you know that this person was going to use the weapons against another person?
 - B. If "Yes," did you know that this person was going to sell or give the weapons to someone who was going to use them against another person?
19. Did you ever receive any type of military, paramilitary (*a group of people who act like a military group but are not part of the official military*), or weapons training?
20. Did you ever recruit (*ask*), enlist (*sign up*), conscript (*require*), or use any person under age 15 to serve in or help an armed force or group?
21. Did you ever use any person under age 15 to do anything that helped or supported people in combat?



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ENHANCEMENTS:

4. NATIONAL SECURITY AND GOOD MORAL CHARACTER (cont'd)

22. Have you ever committed, assisted in committing, or attempted to commit, a crime or offense for which you were not arrested?

23. Have you ever been arrested, cited, or detained by any law enforcement officer (including any and all immigration officials or the U.S. Armed Forces) for any reason?

24. Have you ever been charged with committing, attempting to commit, or assisting in committing a crime or offense?

28. A. Have you ever been in jail or prison? Yes No

B. If "Yes," how long were you in jail or prison? Years Months Days

31. Have you ever given any U.S. Government official(s) any information or documentation that was false, fraudulent, or misleading?

36. Are removal, exclusion, rescission, or deportation proceedings (including administratively closed proceedings) currently pending against you?



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ENHANCEMENTS:

5. PREPARER, APPLICANT, AND INTERPRETER STATEMENTS

Statements have been added to ensure that all parties (including the applicant) understand the form's information requests, and that the applicant's responses are provided and communicated as completely as possible.

Part 13. Signature and Contact Information of the Person Who Prepared This Form, If Other Than the Applicant

By my signature, I certify, swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that I prepared this form on behalf of, at the request of, and with the express consent of the applicant. I completed the form based only on responses the applicant provided to me. After completing the form, I reviewed it and all of the applicant's responses with the applicant, who agreed with every answer he or she provided for each question on the form and, when required, supplied additional information to respond to a question on the form.

Preparer's E-mail Address

Preparer's Fax Number

() -



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ENHANCEMENTS:

5. PREPARER, APPLICANT, AND INTERPRETER STATEMENTS (cont'd)

Part 14. Statement of Applicants Who Used an Interpreter

NOTE: If you answered "Yes" to Part 2., Item Numbers 11. or 12. of this form and during the completion of the form used an interpreter to interpret the questions on the form, then you and your interpreter must complete this section.

Applicant's Statement

Each and every question and instruction on this form, as well as my answer to each question, has been read to me by the interpreter named below in , a language in which I am fluent.

(language used)

I understand each and every question and instruction on this form, as translated to me by my interpreter, and have provided true and correct responses in the language indicated above.

Your Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)



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ENHANCEMENTS:

5. PREPARER, APPLICANT, AND INTERPRETER STATEMENTS *(cont'd)*

Part 14. Statement of Applicants Who Used an Interpreter <i>(continued)</i>		A-	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Your Interpreter's Statement									
I certify that I am fluent in English and <input type="text"/>									
<i>(language used)</i>									
I further certify that I have read each and every question and instruction on this form, as well as the answer to each question, to this applicant in the above-mentioned language, and the applicant has informed me that he or she has understood each and every instruction and question on the form, as well as the answer to each question.									
Interpreter's Printed Name									
Family Name <i>(Last Name)</i>			Given Name <i>(First Name)</i>			Middle Name <i>(if applicable)</i>			
<input type="text"/>			<input type="text"/>			<input type="text"/>			
Interpreter's Signature								Date <i>(mm/dd/yyyy)</i>	
<input type="text"/>								<input type="text"/>	
Telephone Number									
(<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>									



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ENHANCEMENTS:

7. OTHER – MEMBERSHIPS, ARMED FORCES, SELECTIVE SERVICE

Name of Group	Purpose of the Group	Dates of Membership	
		From (mm/dd/yyyy)	To (mm/dd/yyyy)

38. Are you **currently** a member of the U.S. Armed Forces?
39. If you are **currently** a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, are you scheduled to deploy overseas, including to a vessel, within the next 3 months? *(Refer to the Address Change section within the Form N-400 Instructions on how to notify USCIS if you learn of your deployment plans after you file your Form N-400.)*
40. If you are **currently** a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, are you **currently** stationed overseas?
41. Have you **ever** been court-martialed, administratively separated, or disciplined, or have you received an other than honorable discharge, while in the U.S. Armed Forces?
42. Have you **ever** been discharged from training or service in the U.S. Armed Forces because you were an alien?

46. A. Are you a male who lived in the United States at any time between your 18th and 26th birthdays? Yes No
(This does not include living in the United States as a lawful nonimmigrant.)
- B. If "Yes," when did you register for the Selective Service? Provide the information below.
- Date Registered (mm/dd/yyyy) ► Selective Service Number
- C. If "Yes," but you did not register with the Selective Service System and you are:
1. Still under 26 years of age, you must register before you apply for naturalization, and complete the Selective Service information above; **OR**
 2. Now 26 years of age or older but you did not register with the Selective Service, you must attach a statement explaining why you did not register, and a status information letter from the Selective Service.



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ENHANCEMENTS:

8. 2D BARCODE TECHNOLOGY

The revised Form N-400 now contains 2D barcode technology to enhance our ability to quickly and accurately intake the application.

Data entered onto the form electronically, in PDF format, will become readable through a barcode at the bottom of each page.

USCIS will scan the customized information and upload it directly to our systems resulting in improved data quality, efficiency in processing and increased integrity of the naturalization program.



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ENHANCEMENTS:

8. 2D BARCODE TECHNOLOGY (*cont'd*)

Any damage to the barcode, such as staples and tears, may result in processing delays.

However, if there is no barcode, or if the barcode is damaged, USCIS will still be able to process the revised Form N-400 without the benefit of the barcode enhancements.



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ENHANCEMENTS:

8. 2D BARCODE TECHNOLOGY *(cont'd)*

To take advantage of the 2D barcode improvements, applicants should access the revised form at www.uscis.gov/N-400, fill it out electronically, print, sign and then mail it to the USCIS Lockbox along with supporting documentation and the correct fee.

Organizations that file multiple electronically completed applications should note that the 2D barcode on each application is customized to each individual electronically completed application.



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ENHANCEMENTS:

8. 2D BARCODE TECHNOLOGY (*cont'd*)

Applicants who are unable to fill out the revised N-400 electronically may instead print the form and fill it out by hand in black ink.

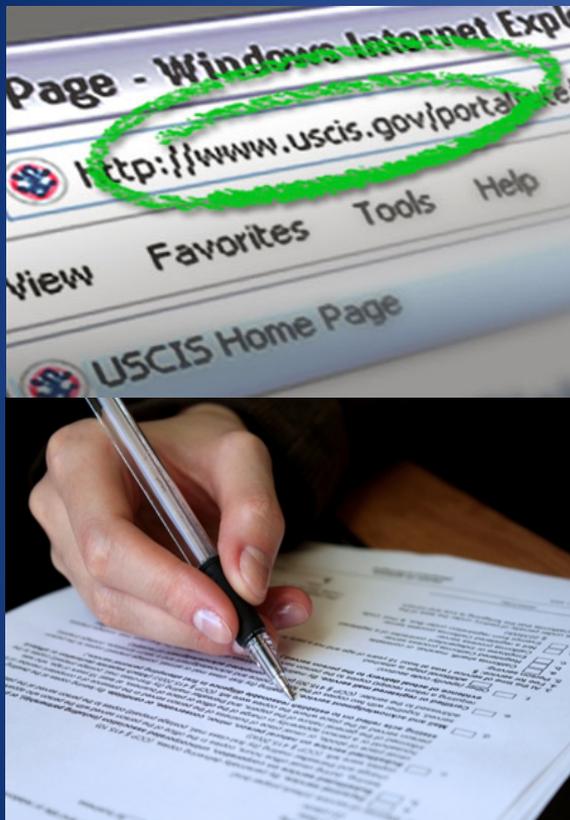
The applicant's signature, supporting documentation, and correct fee are still required. USCIS will accept both electronically entered and printed forms *and* handwritten forms, as long as the application is complete.

Please visit www.uscis.gov/forms/uscis-2d-barcode-requirements for more information.



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IMPLEMENTATION



- The revised version of Form N-400 is now available to the general public at www.uscis.gov/N-400.
- Applicants may continue to use previous versions of Form N-400 for **90 days** from the date the revised version was released.
- Any previous version of Form N-400 submitted after the **90 day** period will be rejected and sent back to the applicant.
- The filing fee is the same.



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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1: *When and where can an applicant obtain the revised Form N-400?*

A1: The revised form is now available at www.uscis.gov/N-400.

Q2: *What should be noted about filing multiple electronically completed applications?*

A2: The 2D barcode is customized to each N-400. Organizations that file multiple electronically completed applications should note that the 2D barcode on each application is customized to each individual application.

Q3: *Is the applicant required to complete the form electronically?*

A3: No. However, in order to take advantage of the 2D barcode improvements, such as quick and accurate intake of the application, electronic completion of the revised form is encouraged.



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FAQs *(cont'd)*



Q4: For how long will the older versions of Form N-400 be accepted?

A4: After 90 days, USCIS will no longer accept any previous version of Form N-400.

Q5: Has the filing fee increased?

A5: No. The filing fee remains the same.

Q6: Have any of the naturalization eligibility requirements changed?

A6: No. All naturalization eligibility requirements are the same.



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FAQs *(cont'd)*

Q7: Why are there additional national security questions?

A7: The additional questions are based on legal requirements under the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 and the Child Soldier Accountability Act of 2008.

Q8: Why are there Preparer, Applicant, and Interpreter Statements?

A8: These statements have been added to the revised form to ensure that all parties, including the applicant, understand the form's information requests, and that the applicant's responses are provided and communicated as completely as possible.

Q9: Why expound on nobility and foreign title renunciation?

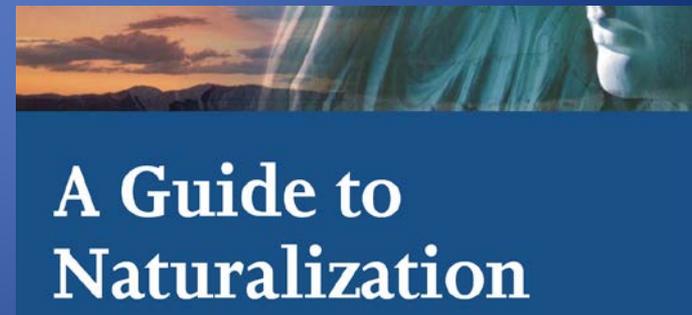
A9: These items have been highlighted to ensure that all applicants are made fully aware of the renunciation requirement and provide their written consent to do so prior to becoming a U.S. citizen.



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RESOURCES

- USCIS Policy Manual
www.uscis.gov/policymanual/
- USCIS Website
www.uscis.gov
- Revised Form N-400 and Instructions
www.uscis.gov/N-400
- A Guide to Naturalization
www.uscis.gov/natzguide



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Teleconference Invitation



Revised Form N-400, Application for Naturalization
Thursday, February 20, 2014
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) invites you to participate in a stakeholder teleconference on **Thursday, February 20, 2014 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)** to discuss the revised Form N-400, Application for Naturalization.

On February 4, 2014, USCIS issued a revised [Form N-400, Application for Naturalization](#). This revision is part of USCIS's ongoing [forms improvement initiative](#).

The revised Form N-400 contains:

- Clearer and more comprehensive instructions which highlight general eligibility requirements and specific instructions on how to complete the application;
- 2D barcode technology used for each page on the revised Form N-400, which will enhance our ability to quickly and accurately process the application; and
- New questions based on legal requirements related to national security and good moral character.

During the teleconference, USCIS officials will provide an overview of the revised Form N-400 and answer your questions. For more information, please visit www.uscis.gov/n-400.

To Register for this Session:

Please visit our [registration page](#) to confirm your participation. Be sure to provide your full name and organization by following these steps:

1. Enter your email address and select "Submit"
2. Select "Subscriber Preferences"
3. Select the "Event Registration" tab
4. Complete the questions and select "Submit"

Once your registration is processed, you will receive a confirmation email with additional details.

If you have any questions about the registration process, or if you have not received a confirmation email within two business days, please email us at Public.Engagement@uscis.dhs.gov.

We look forward to engaging with you!