

## YOUR WORKING CHECKLIST

# Citizenship at birth abroad: the parent's history and law at birth

## Does having a U.S.–citizen parent automatically make a child born abroad a citizen?

Not every birth abroad to a citizen parent satisfies the same citizenship–transmission rule. State's guidance distinguishes the child's birth date, parents' citizenship and relationship circumstances, and the citizen parent's qualifying prior U.S. history. A later CRBA, passport or certificate documents a claim; the document is not a substitute for establishing the underlying rule and facts.

Check the boxes on screen or by hand. Use the notes area for records to find and questions to ask.

### Your preparation checklist

- ☐ Identify the child's actual birth date and location.
- ☐ Establish each parent's citizenship at that time.
- ☐ Use the precise family category in State's guidance.
- ☐ Separate the underlying claim from the document application.

### Notes and questions to follow up

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### Source links and current instructions

Sources checked October 25, 2026. Follow current instructions at the linked institution.

**U.S. Department of State: Citizenship at birth abroad: historical family inquiry**

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/travel-legal-considerations/us-citizenship/Acquisition-US-Citizenship-Child-Born-Abroad.html>

**U.S. Department of State: Consular Report of Birth Abroad: citizenship evidence**

<https://travel.state.gov/en/international-travel/living-abroad/birth.html>

**U.S. Department of State: Passport application: citizenship evidence and document distinctions**

<https://travel.state.gov/en/passports/apply/help/citizenship-evidence.html>

## Citizenship at birth abroad: the parent's history and law at birth

### Source links (continued)

USCIS: N-600: Certificate of Citizenship

<https://www.uscis.gov/n-600>

Immigrant Insider: Editorial policy and verification status

<https://immigrantinsider.com/editorial-policy/>

### Return to the complete guide

<https://immigrantinsider.com/immigration-paths/citizenship/acquired-birth/>

### General information

This free organizer is not a government form and does not submit an application, establish eligibility, preserve a deadline or replace individual legal advice. Government filing fees and professional services are separate.