

YOUR WORKING CHECKLIST

Citizenship through a parent: birth, later acquisition and proof

How can I tell whether a citizenship claim concerns birth, childhood or naturalization?

Citizenship at birth abroad, acquisition after birth through a parent, and naturalization are different frameworks. The relevant law, dates, parentage, residence and custody facts determine the question. A CRBA, passport or USCIS certificate documents a substantiated claim; choosing a document cannot supply missing legal 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 claimed citizenship event and relevant date.
- ☐ Establish the parent's citizenship and applicable family relationship.
- ☐ Separate prior parental presence from the child's later residence and custody.
- ☐ Preserve authoritative records rather than inferring facts from a document's label.

Notes and questions to follow up

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: Citizenship under the Child Citizenship Act

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/travel-legal-considerations/us-citizenship/child-citizenship-act-of-2000.html>

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

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

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Source links (continued)

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

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

USCIS: N-600: Certificate of Citizenship

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

USCIS: N-400: Naturalization

<https://www.uscis.gov/n-400>

Immigrant Insider: Editorial policy and verification status

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

Return to the complete guide

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

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.