

YOUR WORKING CHECKLIST

Form N-648: medical explanation, professional responsibility and filing stage

What must a medical-disability exception explain for naturalization?

USCIS's current N-648 policy requires an individualized medical explanation connecting a qualifying impairment to inability to learn or demonstrate English or civics, even with reasonable accommodation. A diagnosis alone is insufficient. The certifying professional, duration and filing-stage rules also matter.

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

Your preparation checklist

- ☐ Confirm the certifier's professional type and applicable license.
- ☐ Ask for an individualized explanation supported by actual examination.
- ☐ Identify whether the document is initial, late initial or USCIS-requested updated evidence.
- ☐ Keep medical records private and address accommodation needs separately.

Notes and questions to follow up

Source links and current instructions

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

USCIS: USCIS Policy Manual: medical disability exception

<https://www.uscis.gov/policy-manual/volume-12-part-e-chapter-3>

USCIS: Form N-648: disability exception and naturalization accommodations

<https://www.uscis.gov/n-648>

USCIS: N-400: Naturalization

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

Immigrant Insider: Editorial policy and verification status

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

Form N-648: medical explanation, professional responsibility and filing stage

Return to the complete guide

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

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.