

YOUR WORKING CHECKLIST

Seals, stamps and marginal notes in translated records

How should translation handle a stamp or note outside the main document text?

Include visible words in seals, stamps and margin notes within the agreed scope. Preserve their location and relationship to the main record; an official-looking mark does not become authenticated merely because it has been translated.

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

Your preparation checklist

- ☐ Scan all margins and reverse-side notes
- ☐ Identify which entry a note modifies
- ☐ Separate descriptions from source wording
- ☐ Flag overlapping or unreadable marks

A little support for your next step.

Eagle Translate has reserved the discount code SUPPORT25 for Immigrant Insider readers, to help immigrants in the United States with document translation costs. Use your reader code when you order. No expiration date. No usage limit.

Reader code: SUPPORT25

<https://eagletranslate.com/>

Check the order total before payment.

Notes and questions to follow up

Seals, stamps and marginal notes in translated records

Source links and current instructions

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

USCIS: Policy Manual: evidence

<https://www.uscis.gov/policy-manual/volume-1-part-e-chapter-6>

U.S. Department of State: Civil documents for immigrant visa processing

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/immigrate/the-immigrant-visa-process/step-5-collect-financial-evidence-and-other-supporting-documents/step-7-collect-civil-documents.html>

California Secretary of State: Apostille frequently asked questions

<https://www.sos.ca.gov/notary/apostille-faqs>

Return to the complete guide

<https://immigrantinsider.com/documents/seals-stamps-and-marginal-notes/>

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.