

PERMANENT RESIDENCE



A **Certificate of Permanent Residence** is a document of legal status, which is issued to an individual for the duration of his/her life, unless revoked, and gives him/her the right to reside and/or work.

Eligibility

The following categories of persons may apply for permanent residence:

- **Spouse of a Bahamian** after 5 years of marriage, and whose marriage is subsisting and the couple cohabiting as husband and wife
- **Persons born legitimately outside of The Bahamas to a married woman, who is a citizen of The Bahamas, and whose husband is not a citizen of The Bahamas.**
- **Financially independent individuals or investors who are legitimate owners of a residence in The Bahamas** – please note that persons purchasing a residence for BSD \$750,000.00 or more will get speedy consideration
- **Police and Prison Officers employed in the Government Service for a minimum of 10 years**

- **Teachers employed in the Government Service** or by charitable or religious institutions **for a minimum of 10 years**
- **Nurses employed in the Government Service** or with private hospitals and healthcare facilities **for a minimum of 10 years**
- **Ministers of Religion** / Priests after having been employed **for a minimum of 20 years**
- **Doctors / Medical professionals** after having been employed **for a minimum of 20 years**
- **Persons who have held legal work permit status for more than twenty (20) consecutive years.**
- **Person who resided in the country for at least 10 and less than 20 years and who held a work permit in any of the scales 5 to 8.**

Application Form(s) (click below for link to forms):

- [Permanent Residence for Spouse of Bahamian \[Form IV\(A\)\]](#)
- [Permanent Residence \(Economic\) \[Form IV\]](#)
- [Electronic Permanent Residence Card Application Form](#)

Certificate of Permanent Residence Application Requirements:

- **\$200.00 non-refundable processing fee** (payable by cash , credit/debit card, postal/money orders or bank certified cheque)
- **Letter of request addressed to the Director of Immigration**
- **Duly completed application form** with Bahamian \$10.00 postage stamp affixed thereon (legible & notarized)
- Applicant's original **medical certificate** (dated not earlier than 30 days before submission of the application. Required for every applicant)
- Applicant's original **police certificate** (issued not earlier than six (6) months and must cover five years of residence; required of applicants 14 years old and older)
- **Two (2) current passport photographs of applicant** on white background with name printed on back of photo (captured within six (6) months of application date; photo size must be 2 X 2 inches)
- Copy of the biographical data page of **applicant's current passport** (must be signed and readable with minimum of two (2) months validity)
- Copy of biographical data page of **spouse's passport** (must be signed and readable with two (2) months validity) [if applicable]
- Copy of biographical data page of **child(ren)'s passport** (must be signed and readable with two (2) months validity) [if applicable]
- **Original birth certificate of applicant** (English translations and Bahamian \$10.00 postage stamps affixed thereon) **with the verification by the Consulate and authentication of signature by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
- **Two (2) character references** from reputable persons or persons of good standing in applicant's community (please provide telephone contacts and email addresses along biographical page of passport)
- **Original birth certificate for applicant's spouse**
- **Original birth certificates for applicant's children (if applicable)**
- Certified copy of **marriage certificate** (English translations and Bahamian \$10.00 postage stamp affixed thereon; if applicable)
- Copy of any **Naturalization for spouse** (if applicable)
- **Deed Poll** (if applicable) (registered at Registrar General's Office)
- **Proof of current immigration status** (Work Permit/Permit to Reside etc.)

- **Death Certificate/ divorce decree** (if applicable)
- Documentary proof of **payment of Real Property Tax** (if applicable)
- Copy of **conveyance for residential property(ies)** owned by applicant in The Bahamas (if applicable)
- **School letters** (where applicable)
- **Documentary proof of Adoption** (registered at Registrar General's Department) [if applicable]

Please note that:

1. **All documents issued from countries outside The Bahamas must be properly verified** (by apostille or Legalization) and have signature of authentication by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs before they can be submitted. **An apostille is required for all birth, marriage and death certificates issued by countries that are members of the Hague Apostille Convention.** For a complete list of Hague Apostille Convention countries please visit [Hague signatories](#)
2. **Certified translations in English are required** for each foreign document submitted and should have a Bahamian \$10.00 postage stamp affixed thereto.
3. **Translations must be prepared by someone proficient in the relevant foreign language**