

# Citizenship Interview Questions

<http://www.american-citizenship.org/sample-interview.php>

Read the dialogue between an USCIS officer and an Applicant below. The officer is interviewing the Applicant who has applied for naturalization. This is what you may hear and do when you go for your interview. Practice the question and responses from each category

## General Interview Questions

**USCIS officer:** Please stand and raise your right hand.

**Applicant:** (Get out of the chair and put his/her right hand in the air). What does it mean? You are getting ready to take an oath.

**USCIS officer:** Do you swear that everything you say today will be the truth?

**Applicant:** Yes. What does it mean? You gave a promise that you will tell the truth.

**USCIS officer:** Do you promise to tell the truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

**Applicant:** Yes. You gave a promise that you will tell the truth.

**USCIS officer:** Please sit down.

**Applicant:** (Get back into your chair). What does it mean? The oath is finished.

**USCIS officer:** Do you understand what an oath is?

**Applicant:** Yes, it is a promise to tell the truth.

**USCIS officer:** What is your complete name?

**Applicant:** My name is Carlos Jesus Mincho.

**USCIS officer:** What is your name?

**Applicant:** Carlos Mincho

## **Residency Interview Questions**

**USCIS officer:** How long have you been a Permanent Resident of the United States?

**Applicant:** I have been a resident for ten years.

**USCIS officer:** When did you first come to the United States?

**Applicant:** I arrived in the United States in 1999.

**USCIS officer:** On what date did you enter the United States?

**Applicant:** I arrived in the United States on December 23, 1999.

**USCIS officer:** How long have you lived in the United States?

**Applicant:** I have lived in the United States for six years.

**USCIS officer:** In what port of entry did you arrive in America?

**Applicant:** My port of entry was the Los Angeles airport.

**USCIS officer:** What was your port of entry?

**Applicant:** I crossed the United States border near Seattle, Washington.

**USCIS officer:** When did you become a Permanent Resident?

**Applicant:** I became a Permanent Resident in 1997.

### **Employment Interview Questions**

**USCIS officer:** Who is your employer?

**Applicant:** I am unemployed right now.

**USCIS officer:** Why aren't you working?

**Applicant:** I was laid off from my last job, and I'm looking for a new job.

**USCIS officer:** Who is your current employer?

**Applicant:** My employer is Consum, Inc.

**USCIS officer:** Who do you currently work for?

**Applicant:** I work for Consum, Inc.

**USCIS officer:** Are you currently working?

**Applicant:** Yes, I work for Consum, Inc.

**USCIS officer:** What kind of work do you do?

**Applicant:** I work for Cnsum, Inc. as a secretary.

**USCIS officer:** Do you have a job?

**Applicant:** Yes, I work at Consum, Inc.

**USCIS officer:** What is your occupation?

**Applicant:** I am a secretary.

**USCIS officer:** What kind of income do you have?

**Applicant:** I get an income from working for Consum, Inc.

**USCIS officer:** How do you support yourself?

**Applicant:** I work for Consum, Inc.

**USCIS officer:** How long have you held this job?

**Applicant:** I have had this job for two years.

**USCIS officer:** Who was your employer before that?

**Applicant:** At Lein Electric Company.

**USCIS officer:** What job did you have there?

**Applicant:** A repair and service person.

## **Martial (Marriage) Status Questions**

**USCIS officer:** What is your marital status?

**Applicant:** I am married.

**USCIS officer:** What is your marital status?

**Applicant:** I am divorced.

**USCIS officer:** Are you married?

**Applicant:** No, I am single.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever been married previously?

**Applicant:** Yes, I was married for one year when I lived in Brazil.

**USCIS officer:** Is your husband a United States citizen?

**Applicant:** No, he is not a United States citizen.

**USCIS officer:** Is your wife a United States citizen?

**Applicant:** Yes, she is.

**USCIS officer:** Why did you get a divorce?

**Applicant:** We didn't get along.

**USCIS officer:** Why did you get divorced?

**Applicant:** We were always fighting.

**USCIS officer:** How long have you been married?

**Applicant:** I have been married for eleven years.

### **Children & Family Interview Questions**

**USCIS officer:** How many children do you have?

**Applicant:** I have three children.

**USCIS officer:** Do your children live with you?

**Applicant:** Yes, my children live in my home.

**USCIS officer:** How many people live in your house?

**Applicant:** Four people: myself, my husband, and two children.

**USCIS officer:** Who do you live with?

**Applicant:** I live with my husband and two children.

**USCIS officer:** Where do your children live?

**Applicant:** My children live with me in Bronx, New York.

**USCIS officer:** Did any of your children stay in your native country? **Applicant:** No, all of my children live with me here in Bronx.

**USCIS officer:** When were your children born?

**Applicant:** One was born in 1990 and one in 1997.

**USCIS officer:** Were they all born in the United States?

**Applicant:** Yes, they were born in the United States.

## **Travel Interview Questions**

**USCIS officer:** How many times have you left the United States since you became a Permanent Resident?

**Applicant:** I went out of America only one time.

**USCIS officer:** How long were you away?

**Applicant:** I was gone for two weeks.

**USCIS officer:** Where did you go?

**Applicant:** I went to visit my sister in Greece.

**USCIS officer:** Why did you leave the United States?

**Applicant:** I wanted to visit my sister in Greece because she was sick.

**USCIS officer:** Since becoming a Permanent Resident, have you ever left the United States?

**Applicant:** I left only once to go visit my aunt in Singapore.

**USCIS officer:** When was the last time you left the United States? **Applicant:** I went to Japan two years ago.

**USCIS officer:** Have you left the United States since you became a Permanent Resident?

**Applicant:** No, I've never left the United States.

**USCIS officer:** Since coming to the U.S., have you traveled to any other country?

**Applicant:** No, I've never left the United States.

**USCIS officer:** Have you visited any other country since becoming a Permanent Resident?

**Applicant:** Yes, I went to Malaysia to visit my friend one time.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever been deported by the Immigration office?

**Applicant:** No, I have never been ordered to leave America.

**USCIS officer:** Were you ever ordered to leave the United States?



**Applicant:** No, I have never been deported.

### **Personal Information Interview Questions**

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever used a different name?

**Applicant:** Yes, my last name used to be Hokkeikulah.

**USCIS officer:** Do you want to change your name?

**Applicant:** Yes, I want to change my last name to Hollander.

**USCIS officer:** What other names have you gone by?

**Applicant:** I used to be called Allaher Hokkeikulah.

**USCIS officer:** To what do you want to change your name?

**Applicant:** I want my new name to be Alley Hollander.

**USCIS officer:** What name do you want to have now?

**Applicant:** Alley Hollander.

**USCIS officer:** How do you spell that?

**Applicant:** A-l-l-e-y H-o-l-l-a-n-d-e-r.

**USCIS officer:** What other names have you used in the past?

**Applicant:** I've never used any other names.

**USCIS officer:** What was your maiden name?

**Applicant:** Before I was married, my name was Allaher Goghchnech.

**USCIS officer:** What other names have you used in the past?

**Applicant:** Before I was married my name was Allaher Goghchnech.

**USCIS officer:** When did you change your name?

**Applicant:** I changed my name six years ago when I was married.

**USCIS officer:** Why do you want to be an American citizen?

**Applicant:** I want to vote.

**USCIS officer:** Why do you want to be a U.S. citizen?

**Applicant:** I want to travel with a U.S. passport.

**USCIS officer:** Why have you applied for naturalization?

**Applicant:** I want to bring my sister to America.

**USCIS officer:** Were you ever arrested?

**Applicant:** Yes, a long time ago.

**USCIS officer:** What were you arrested for?

**Applicant:** I stole some money from the neighbor.

**USCIS officer:** How about any other arrests?

**Applicant:** No, that was the only time I was arrested.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever committed any crime for which you have not been arrested?

**Applicant:** No, I've never done any crimes that I wasn't punished for.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever been imprisoned for breaking any law?

**Applicant:** I was in jail for one month for stealing some money from my neighbor.

**USCIS officer:** When was that?

**Applicant:** In 1992.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever failed to file a federal income tax return?

**Applicant:** No, I have always filed my taxes.

**USCIS officer:** Have you filed your federal taxes every year?

**Applicant:** Yes, I pay my taxes every year.

**USCIS officer:** Do you pay taxes?

**Applicant:** Yes, I pay federal and state taxes each year.

**USCIS officer:** Was there ever a year when you didn't file your federal tax forms?

**Applicant:** No, I've filed my tax forms every year since I came to America.

**USCIS officer:** Was there every a year when you didn't file your federal tax forms?

**Applicant:** Yes, I didn't file my first two years in America because I made no money.

**USCIS officer:** Do you pay taxes?

**Applicant:** No, I don't have a job so I don't pay federal income taxes.

## **Ethics Interview Questions**

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever been a habitual drunkard?

**Applicant:** No, I don't drink alcohol.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever been a habitual drunkard?

**Applicant:** No, I drink only a little.

**USCIS officer:** Were you ever drunk every day?

**Applicant:** No, I drink only one glass of wine a week.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever advocated or practiced polygamy?

**Applicant:** No, I have only one wife.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever been married to more than one person at a time?

**Applicant:** No, I have always had only one husband.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever practiced polygamy?

**Applicant:** No, I am not married, and I have never been married.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever been a prostitute?

**Applicant:** No, I don't sell my body.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever been a prostitute?

**Applicant:** No, I've never taken money for sex.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever sold your body for money?

**Applicant:** No, I've never been a prostitute.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever knowingly and for gain helped any alien to enter the U.S. illegally?

**Applicant:** No, I have never smuggled anyone into the country.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever helped someone enter the U.S. illegally?

**Applicant:** No, I have never smuggled anyone into the country.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever smuggled anyone into the U.S.?

**Applicant:** No, I have never helped anyone enter America illegally.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever accepted money for sneaking someone into the U.S.?

**Applicant:** No, I have never helped anyone enter America illegally.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever been a trafficker in illegal drugs?

**Applicant:** No, I have never touched illegal drugs.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever bought or sold illegal drugs?

**Applicant:** No, I am not a drug trafficker.

**USCIS officer:** Have you ever carried illegal drugs for someone else?

**Applicant:** No, I have never handled illegal drugs.

Practice these conversations with a friend. Give your own answers to the interview questions just as you would during the real interview.