

## **New citizenship test to be tested by new immigrants**

San Jose Mercury News (California)

November 15, 2006 Wednesday

Copyright 2006 San Jose Mercury News All Rights Reserved

**The Mercury News**

Found on BayArea.com

**Length:** 252 words

**Byline:** Jessie Mangaliman, Mercury News

### **Body**

---

**Immigrants** in 10 cities around the country will be the first to try a **new** U.S. **citizenship test**, as part of a pilot project in the redesign of the required exam.

None of the cities are in the Bay Area or California.

"We're not trying to make the **test** harder," said Sharon Rummery, spokeswoman for the U.S. **Citizenship** and Immigration Services. "We want to refine the exam and get right down to what's important."

Beginning in January next year, volunteer **immigrants** will be recruited in Albany, N.Y.; Boston, Charleston, S.C.; Denver; El Paso; Kansas City, MO; San Antonio; Tucson and Yucama to take the **new test** as part of the pilot project that's expected to last three to four months.

The redesign of the **test** will include "getting rid of some of the more frivolous questions and make it meaningful for our **new** citizens," Rummery said.

One such question, Rummery said: What are the American flag colors?

From the pilot project, USCIS will come up with a redesigned **test** and in 2008, it will be used nationwide.

Permanent residents who have been in the United States for five years and qualify to apply for **citizenship**, are required to take a simple exam about American government and civics. They are usually asked half-dozen questions from a set of about 100 questions.

"We want to encourage people to understand our values as a nation," Rummery said. "We want a **new test** that will result in our **new** citizens being prepared citizens."

Contact Jessie Mangaliman at [jmangaliman@mercurynews.com](mailto:jmangaliman@mercurynews.com) or (408) 920-5794.

### **Classification**

---

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

New citizenship test to be tested by new immigrants

**Subject:** **CITIZENSHIP** (93%); IMMIGRATION (89%)

**Geographic:** KANSAS CITY, MO, USA (79%); ALBANY, NY, USA (79%); CHARLESTON, SC, USA (56%); SOUTH CAROLINA, USA (79%); MISSOURI, USA (79%); **NEW** YORK, USA (79%); CALIFORNIA, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (94%)

**Load-Date:** November 15, 2006

---

End of Document