

## N-400 Instructions:

### Document Checklist:

**All applicants must send the following 3 items with their N-400 Application:**

1. A photocopy of both sides of your Permanent Resident Card. If you have lost the card, submit a photocopy of the receipt of your Form I-90 (Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card); and
2. A check or money order for the application fee and the biometric service fee, as stated below. Write your application number on the back of the check or money order.  
You may also pay using a credit card. There is no additional fee when you do so. The N-400 is the only form you can pay by credit card using the G-1450 (Authorization for Credit Card Transaction); and
3. If you reside outside of the United States, 2 identical colour photographs, with your name and Alien Registration Number written lightly in pencil on the back of each photo. For details about the photo requirements, see Part 5 of Form M-476 (A Guide to Naturalization) and the Form N-400 (Application for Naturalization) instructions. If your religion requires you to wear a head covering, your facial features must still be exposed in the photo for purposes of identification.

**Send copies of the following documents, unless we ask for an original:**

If an attorney or accredited representative is acting on your behalf, send:

»» A completed *original* Form G-28 (Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Representative).

If your current legal name is different from the name on your Permanent Resident Card, send:

»» The document(s) that legally changed your name (marriage certificate, divorce decree or court document).

If you are applying for naturalization based on marriage to a US citizen, send the following 4 items:

1. Evidence that your spouse has been a US citizen for the last 3 years:
  - a. Birth certificate (if your spouse never lost citizenship since birth),
  - b. Certificate of Naturalization,
  - c. Certificate of Citizenship
  - d. The inside of the front cover and signature page of your spouse's current US passport
  - e. Form FS-240, Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States of America
2. Your current marriage certificate
3. Proof of termination of all prior marriages of your spouse (divorce decree(s), annulment(s) or death certificate(s))
4. Document referring to you and your spouse:
  - a. Tax returns, bank accounts, leases, mortgages or birth certificates of children
  - b. Internal Revenue Service certified copies of the income tax forms that you both filed for the past 3 years
  - c. An Internal Revenue Service tax return transcript for the last 3 years

If you were married before, send:

»» Proof that all earlier marriages ended (divorce decree(s), annulment(s) or death certificate(s)).

If you are currently in the US military service and are seeking citizenship based on that service, send:

»» A completed *original* Form N-426 (Request for Certification of Military or Naval Service)

If you have taken any trip outside the United States that lasted 6 months or more since becoming a Lawful Permanent Resident, send evidence that you (and your family) continued to live, work and/or keep ties to the United States, such as:

- »» An IRS tax return transcript or an IRS-certified tax return listing tax information for the last 5 years (or for the last 3 years if you are applying based on a marriage to a US citizen)
- »» Rent or mortgage payments and pay stubs

If you have a dependant spouse or child(ren) who do not live with you, send:

- »» Any court or government order to provide financial support,
- »» Evidence of your financial support (including evidence that you have complied with any court or government order), such as:
  - a. Cancelled checks,
  - b. Money and receipts,
  - c. A court or agency print out,
  - d. Evidence of wage garnishments,
  - e. A letter from the parent or guardian who cares for your child(ren)

If you have ever been arrested or detained by any law enforcement officer for any reason, and no charges were filed, send:

- »» An *original* official statement by the arresting agency or applicant court confirming that no charges were filed

If you have ever been arrested or detained by any law enforcement officer for any reason, and charges were filed, send:

- »» An *original* or court-certified copy of the complete arrest record and disposition for each incident (dismissal order, conviction record or acquittal order)

If you have ever been convicted or placed in an alternative sentencing program or rehabilitative program (such as drug treatment or community service program), send:

- »» An *original* or court-certified copy of the sentencing record for each incident
- »» Evidence that you completed your sentence:
  - a. An *original* or certified copy of your probation or parole record
  - b. Evidence that you completed an alternative sentencing program or rehabilitative program

If you have ever had any arrest or conviction vacated, set aside, sealed, expunged or otherwise removed from your record, send:

- »» An *original* or court-certified copy of the court order vacating, setting aside, sealing, expunging or otherwise removing the arrest or conviction, or an *original* statement from the court that no record exists or your arrest or conviction.

Note: If you have been arrested or convicted of a crime, you may send any countervailing evidence or evidence in your favour concerning the circumstances of your arrest and/or conviction that you would like USCIS to consider.

If you have ever failed to file an income tax return since you became a Lawful Permanent Resident, send:

- »» All correspondence with the IRS regarding your failure to file

If you have any Federal, state or local taxes that are overdue, send:

- »» A signed agreement from the IRS or state or local tax office showing the current status of your repayment program

Note: You may obtain copies of tax documents and tax information by contacting your local IRS offices.

## Current Naturalization Fees:

The fee for filing your naturalization application is:	\$640.00
The biometric services fee is:	\$85.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$725.00</b>

You must send the \$725.00 fee with your application. Pay the fee with a check or money order drawn on a US bank payable to the Department of Homeland Security. Do not use the initials DHS or USDHS. Do not send cash.

You may also pay using a credit card. There is no additional fee when you do so. The N-400 is the only form that you can pay for by credit card using the G-1450 (Authorization for Credit Card Transaction).

USCIS may require that you appear for an interview or provide fingerprints, photograph and/or signature at any time to verify your identity, obtain additional information, and conduct background and security checks, including a check of criminal history records maintained by the FBI, before making a decision on your application.

Remember that your application fee is not refundable even if you withdraw your application or your case is denied.

## What is the Purpose of Form N-400?

Form N-400 (Application for Naturalization) is an application to become a naturalized U.S. citizen.

If your biological or legal adoptive mother or father is a U.S. citizen by birth, or was naturalized before you reached your 18th birthday, you may already be a U.S. citizen.

## A Guide to Naturalization:

To help you understand the naturalization process, USCIS developed A Guide to Naturalization (M-476). This guide provides information on eligibility requirements and naturalization procedures. If you do not already have a photocopy of M-476, you can view the guide on the USCIS website at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov).

## Naturalization Testing:

One of the requirements for naturalization is to take the naturalization test to demonstrate that you can read, write, and speak basic English and that you have a basic knowledge of U.S. history and government (civics).

### Exemptions from the English Language Test:

You are not required to take the English language test if:

- »» At the time of filing your Form N-400, you are 50 years of age or older and have lived in the United States as a permanent resident for periods totaling at least 20 years. You do not have to take the English language test, but you do have to take the civics test in the language of your choice.
- »» At the time of filing your Form N-400, you are 55 years of age or older and have lived in the United States as a permanent resident for periods totaling at least 15 years. You do not have to take the English language test, but you do have to take the civics test in the language of your choice.
- »» At the time of filing your Form N-400, you are 65 years of age or older and have lived in the United States as a permanent resident for periods totaling at least 20 years. You do not have to take the English language test, but you do have to take the civics test in the language of your choice.

**Note:** If you qualify for an exemption from the English language test based on your age and how long you have lived in the United States as a lawful permanent resident, you should answer "Yes" to at least one question in Part 2., Item Number 13. of Form N-400.

**Medical Exception to the English Language and/or Civics Test:**

You may be eligible for an exception to the English language and/or civics tests due to a physical or developmental disability or mental impairment that has lasted, or is expected to last, 12 months or more. Refer to Form N-648, Medical Certification for Disability Exceptions, for more information.

Note: If you are requesting a medical exception to the English language and civics tests, answer “Yes” in Part 2., Item Number 12. of Form N-400. Submit a completed Form N-648 when you file your Form N-400.

## Who Should Not File Form N-400:

You should not file this form if:

- »» You have not met the eligibility requirements for naturalization based on your filing category.
- »» You have acquired or derived U.S. citizenship through one or both of your parents or are eligible for citizenship under Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) 322.

## General Instructions:

**Signature:** Each application must be properly completed, signed, and filed. For all signatures on this application, USCIS will not accept a stamped or typewritten name in place of a handwritten signature. A legal guardian may sign for a mentally incompetent person.

**Filing Fee:** Each application must be accompanied by the appropriate filing fee and biometric services fee (if applicable).

**Evidence:** At the time of filing, you must submit all evidence and supporting documentation listed in the Required Evidence section of these Instructions.

**Biometrics Services Appointment:** USCIS may require that you appear for an interview or provide fingerprints, photograph, and/or signature at any time to verify your identity, obtain additional information, and conduct background and security checks, including a check of criminal history records maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), before deciding on your application. After USCIS receives your application and ensures it is complete, we will inform you in writing if you need to attend a biometric services appointment. If an appointment is necessary, the notice will provide you the location of your local or designated USCIS Application Support Center (ASC) and the date and time of your appointment or, if you are currently overseas, instruct you to contact a U.S. Embassy, U.S. Consulate, or USCIS office outside the United States to set up an appointment.

If you are required to provide biometrics, at your appointment you must sign an oath reaffirming that:

1. You provided or authorized all information in the application; and
2. You reviewed and understood all the information contained in, and submitted with, your application; and
3. All this information was complete, true, and correct at the time of filing.

If you fail to attend your biometric services appointment, USCIS may deny your application.

**Copies:** You should submit legible photocopies of documents requested, unless the Instructions specifically state that you must submit an original document. USCIS may request an original document at the time of filing or at any time during processing of an application, petition, or request. If USCIS requests an original document from you, it will be returned to you after USCIS determines it no longer needs your original.

Note: If you submit original documents when not required or requested by USCIS, your original documents may be immediately destroyed upon receipt.

**Translations:** If you submit a document with information in a foreign language, you must also submit a full English translation. The translator must sign a certification that the English language translation is complete and accurate, and that he or she is competent to translate from the foreign language into English.

## **How to Fill Out Form N-400:**

1. Type or print legibly in black ink.
2. If you need extra space to complete any item in this application; use and attach a separate sheet of paper; type or print your name and Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any) at the top of each sheet; and indicate the Page Number, Part Number, and Item Number to which your answer refers.
3. Answer all questions fully and accurately. If a question does not apply to you (for example, if you have never been married and the question asks, "Provide the name of your current spouse"), type or print "N/A," unless otherwise directed. If your answer to a question, which requires a numeric response, is zero or none (for example, "How many children do you have" or "How many times have you departed the United States"), type or print "None," unless otherwise directed.
4. Avoid highlighting, crossing out, or typing or printing outside the area provided for a response. If you must make substantial corrections to your Form N-400, USCIS recommends that you start a new Form N-400 rather than using correction tape or fluid to correct the information. USCIS scanners may see through the white correction tape or fluid. This may lead to incorrect information being captured in USCIS systems, which may cause processing delays or a rejection of your Form N-400.
5. Provide your A-Number on the top right corner of each page (if any). Your A-Number is located on your Permanent Resident Card (Alien Registration Card). The A-Number on your card consists of a seven to nine-digit number, depending on when your record was created. If the A-Number on your card has fewer than nine digits, place enough zeros before the first number to make a total of nine digits on Form N-400. For example, type or print number A1234567 as A001234567 or type or print number A12345678 as A012345678.
6. Your application must be properly completed, signed, and filed. You must include all pages when you file Form N-400, even if the pages are blank. A photocopy of the application is acceptable if all signatures on the application are handwritten and original. USCIS will not accept a stamped or typewritten name in place of a signature.

**Early Filing:** An applicant filing under the general naturalization provision (section 316(a) of the INA) may file his or her application up to 90 days before he or she would first meet the required 5-year period of continuous residence as a lawful permanent resident (LPR). An applicant filing as the spouse of a U.S. citizen under section 319(a) of the INA may file up to 90 days before meeting the required 3-year period of continuous residence as an LPR. Although an applicant may file early according to the 90-day early filing provision, the applicant is not eligible for naturalization until he or she has reached the required 3- or 5-year period of continuous residence as an LPR. Applicants filing up to 90 days before meeting the continuous residence requirement must still meet all other requirements for naturalization at the time of filing Form N-400. For example, an applicant filing under section 319(a) of the INA must meet all other requirements as the spouse of a U.S. citizen at the time of filing.

## **Specific Instructions:**

This form is divided into 18 parts.

### **Part 1 - Information About Your Eligibility:**

Select the box that applies to you. Select only one box. If you select more than one box, your Form N-400 may be delayed.

**Note:** If you are a lawful permanent resident of the United States, and you are the spouse of a U.S. citizen, and your U.S. citizen spouse is regularly engaged in specified employment abroad, and you were authorized to accompany and reside with your spouse abroad, you do not qualify to naturalize overseas and must be present in the United

States at the time of interview and naturalization. Therefore, type or print the name of the USCIS Field Office where you would like to have your naturalization interview.

## **Part 2 - Information About You (Person Applying for Naturalization):**

**Item Number 1 - Your Current Legal Name:** Your current legal name is the name on your birth certificate unless it changed after birth by a legal action such as a marriage or court order. Do not provide a nickname.

**Item Number 2 - Your Name Exactly as It Appears on Your Permanent Resident Card (if applicable):** Type or print your name exactly as it appears on your Permanent Resident Card even if it is misspelled or has changed through marriage, divorce, or other court order since you received your card. Type or print "N/A" if you do not have a Permanent Resident Card.

**Item Number 3 - Other Names You Have Used Since Birth (include nicknames, aliases, and maiden name):** If you have used any other names or aliases, provide them in this section. If you need extra space to complete this section, use a separate sheet of paper.

**Item Number 4 - Name Change (Optional):** A court can allow you to change your name when you are naturalized. Any name change you request on this application will not be final until you are naturalized by the court. If you want the court to change your name at your naturalization oath ceremony, select "Yes" and complete this section. You do not need to request a name change if your name has changed through marriage, divorce, or other court order.

Note: USCIS cannot process name change requests for members of the military, or their spouses, who are naturalizing overseas.

**Item Number 5 - U.S. Social Security Number (if applicable):** Provide your U.S. Social Security number. Type or print "N/A" if you do not have one.

**Item Number 6 - USCIS Online Account Number (if any):** If you have previously filed an application, petition, or request using the USCIS online filing system (previously called USCIS Electronic Immigration System (USCIS ELIS)), provide the USCIS Online Account Number you were issued by the system. You can find your USCIS Online Account Number by logging in to your account and going to the profile page. If you previously filed certain applications, petitions, or requests on a paper form via a USCIS Lockbox facility, you may have received a USCIS Online Account Access Notice issuing you a USCIS Online Account Number. If you received such a notice, your USCIS Online Account Number can be found at the top of the notice. If you were issued a USCIS Online Account Number, enter it in the space provided. The USCIS Online Account Number is not the same as an A-Number.

**Item Number 7 – Gender:** Indicate if you are male or female.

**Item Number 8 - Date of Birth:** Always use eight numbers to show your date of birth. Type or print the date in this order: Month, Day, Year. For example, type or print May 1, 1958, as 05/01/1958. USCIS will reject your Form N-400 if you do not provide your date of birth.

**Item Number 9 - Date You Became a Lawful Permanent Resident (if applicable):** Provide the official date when your permanent residence began as shown on your Permanent Resident Card (formerly known as the Alien Registration Card). Provide the date in this order: Month, Day, Year. For example, type or print August 9, 1988, as 08/09/1988. USCIS may reject your application if you are a lawful permanent resident and do not provide the date you became a lawful permanent resident.



Note: You need both your USCIS A-Number and your permanent resident date to file Form N-400. Where applicable, if you do not have this information, you should schedule an appointment to obtain this information before you file your Form N-400.

**Item Number 10 - Country of Birth:** Type or print the name of the country in which you were born. Use the name of the country at the time of your birth, even if the name of the country has changed.

**Item Number 11 - Country of Citizenship or Nationality:** Type or print the name of the country as it currently exists, where you are currently a citizen or national. If the country no longer exists, type or print the current name of the country with current authority.

»» If you are stateless, type or print the name of the country, as it currently exists, where you were last a citizen or national.

»» If you are a citizen or national of more than one country, type or print the name of the foreign country that issued your last passport.

**Item Number 12 - Do you have a physical or developmental disability or mental impairment that prevents you from demonstrating your knowledge and understanding of the English language and/or civics requirements for naturalization?** Select "Yes" if you are requesting an exception to the English language and/or civics tests based on a physical or developmental disability or mental impairment that prevents you from complying with the English language and/or civics requirements for naturalization. Submit Form N-648, Medical Certification for Disability Exceptions, as an attachment to your Form N-400.

Note: Submitting a Form N-648 does not guarantee you will be exempted from the testing requirements.

**Item Number 13 - Exemptions from the English Language Test:** Depending on your age and the length of time you have been a lawful permanent resident; you may not be required to take the English language test.

### **Part 3 - Accommodations for Individuals with Disabilities and/or Impairments:**

USCIS is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals with disabilities and/or impairments that will help them fully participate in USCIS programs and benefits. Reasonable accommodations vary with each disability and/or impairment. They may involve modifications to practices or procedures. There are various types of reasonable accommodations that USCIS may offer. Examples include but are not limited to:

»» If you are deaf or hard of hearing, USCIS may provide you with a sign-language interpreter at an interview or other immigration benefit-related appointment;

»» If you are blind or have low vision, USCIS may permit you to take a test orally rather than in writing; or

»» If you are unable to travel to a designated USCIS location for an interview, USCIS may visit you at your home or hospital to conduct the naturalization interview.

If you believe that you need USCIS to accommodate your disability and/or impairment, select "Yes" and then any applicable box in Items A. - C. in Item Number 1. that describes the nature of your disabilities and/or impairments. Also, describe the types of accommodations you are requesting on the lines provided. If you are requesting a sign language interpreter, indicate for which language (for example American Sign Language). If you need extra space to complete this section, use a separate sheet of paper.

Note: All domestic USCIS facilities meet the Accessibility Guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act, so you do not need to contact USCIS to request an accommodation for physical access to a domestic USCIS office. However, in Part 3., Item C. in Item Number 1. of this application, you can indicate whether you use a wheelchair. This will allow USCIS to better prepare for your visit.

Note: USCIS also ensures that limited English proficient (LEP) individuals are provided meaningful access at an interview or other immigration benefit-related appointment, unless otherwise prohibited by law. LEP individuals may bring a qualified interpreter to the interview.

USCIS considers requests for reasonable accommodations on a case-by-case basis, and we will make our best efforts to reasonably accommodate your disabilities and/or impairments. USCIS will not exclude you from participating in USCIS programs or deny your application because of your disabilities and/or impairments. Requesting and/or receiving an accommodation will not affect your eligibility for an immigration benefit.

#### **Part 4 - Information to Contact You:**

Provide your current telephone numbers as well as your current email address. Type or print "N/A" if an item is not applicable or if the answer is "none" unless otherwise indicated. If you are hearing impaired and use a TTY telephone connection, indicate this by writing "TTY" after the telephone number.

#### **Part 5 - Information About Your Residence:**

List every address where you have lived during the last 5 years (including other countries) prior to filing your Form N-400. Start with where you live now, and then include the dates for each place you have lived in a month, day, and year format (mm/dd/yyyy). For example, type or print May 1, 1998 to June 1, 1999 as 05/01/1998 to 06/01/1999. Provide your mailing address if it is different from your current address. If you do not have a State or Province, enter the name of your city again in that box. If you do not have a ZIP or Postal Code, enter "00000" in the ZIP or Postal Code box.

Note: USCIS may not be able to contact you if you do not provide a complete and valid mailing address. If USCIS rejects your Form N-400, USCIS may not be able to return the fee for the Form N-400 to you if you do not provide a complete and valid mailing address.

If you are residing outside of the United States, filing under INA section 319(b), and you want USCIS to collect your biometrics in the United States, then you must provide an address in the United States. USCIS will send a letter to your U.S. mailing address notifying you when and where to go for your biometrics services appointment.

If you are a victim of domestic violence, you are not required to disclose the confidential address of a shelter or safe house. If you are residing in a shelter or safe house at the time of filing this application or you do not feel safe providing your current address, you may provide a "safe address" where you are able to receive mail. Do not provide a Post Office Box number unless that is your only address. If you are not currently residing in a shelter or safe house but have resided in a shelter or safe house for part of the reporting period, you may provide just the name of the city and state of residence for the shelter or safe house. Further clarification, if needed, will occur at the interview.

#### **Part 6 - Information About Your Parents:**

If neither one of your parents is a United States citizen, skip this part and go to Part 7.

Citizenship of Parents. Complete Item Numbers 1, 2, and 3 in Part 6. Select "No" if your mother or father are not U.S. citizens and proceed to the next Item Number or Part as directed on the form.

If one or both of your parents is a U.S. citizen, select "Yes" and complete Items A - E in Item Number 2 (mother's citizenship) and Items A - E in Item Number 3 (father's citizenship) in Part 6.

#### **Part 7 - Biographic Information:**

Provide the biographic information requested in Part 7., Item Numbers 1. - 6. Providing this information as part of your application may reduce the time you spend at your USCIS ASC appointment as described in the Biometric Services Appointment section of these Instructions.



**Item Numbers 1 – 2 - Ethnicity and Race:** Select the boxes that best describe your ethnicity and race.

Categories and Definitions for Ethnicity and Race:

»» Hispanic or Latino. A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

»» White. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

»» Asian. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

»» Black or African American. A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

»» American Indian or Alaska Native. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

»» Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

**Item Number 3 - Height:** Select the values that best match your height in feet and inches. For example, if you are five feet and nine inches select “5” for feet and “09” for inches. Do not enter your height in meters or centimeters. If you do so, your Form N-400 may be delayed.

**Item Number 4 - Weight:** Enter your weight in pounds. If you do not know your weight or need to enter a weight under 30 pounds or over 699 pounds, enter “000.” Do not enter your weight in kilograms.

**Item Number 5 - Eye Color:** Select the box that best describes the color of your eyes.

**Item Number 6 - Hair Color:** Select the box that best describes the color of your hair.

## **Part 8 - Information About Your Employment and Schools You Attended:**

List where you have worked or attended school full time or part time during the last 5 years. Provide information for the complete time period. Include all military, police, and/or intelligence service.

Begin by providing information about your current and most recent employment, studies, or unemployment, if applicable. Provide the locations and dates where you worked, were self-employed, were unemployed, or have studied during the last 5 years. If you worked for yourself, write “self-employed.” If you were unemployed, write “unemployed.”

## **Part 9 - Time Outside the United States:**

**Item Number 1:** Provide the total number of days (24 hours or longer) you spent outside the United States during the last 5 years.

**Item Number 2:** Provide the total number of trips (24 hours or longer) you have taken outside the United States during the last 5 years.

**Item Number 3:** Provide information for every trip (24 hours or longer) you have taken outside the United States during the last 5 years. Start with your most recent trip and work backwards.

## **Part 10 - Information About Your Marital History:**

**Item Number 1 - What is your current marital status?** Select your marital status on the date you file your Form N-400. If you are single and have never been married, go to Part 11 - Information About Your Children.

**Item Number 2 - If you are married, is your spouse a current member of the U.S. Armed Forces?** If you are married, indicate if your spouse is a current member of the U.S. Armed Forces.

**Item Number 3 - How many times have you been married (including annulled marriages, marriages to other people, and marriages to the same person)?** Type or print the number of times you were married. If you were married to the same person more than one time, count each time as a separate marriage.

**Item Number 4:** If you are now married, provide the requested information about your current spouse.

**Item Number 5 - Is your current spouse a U.S. citizen?** Select the box to indicate whether your current spouse is a U.S. citizen.

**Item Number 6:** If your current spouse became a U.S. citizen after birth, select the box that indicates when your spouse became a U.S. citizen and provide the date he or she became a U.S. citizen.

**Item Number 7:** Provide the requested information if your spouse is not a U.S. citizen.

**Item Number 8 - How many times has your current spouse been married (including annulled marriages, marriages to other people, and marriages to the same person)?** If your current spouse has been married before, provide the following information about your current spouse's prior spouse including your current spouse's prior spouse's full legal name, immigration status (if known), date of birth, country of birth, country of citizenship or nationality, date of marriage with prior spouse, date marriage ended with prior spouse, and how the marriage ended with prior spouse. If your current spouse had more than one previous marriage, use a separate sheet of paper to provide the information requested. If your spouse was married to the same person more than one time, provide the requested information about each marriage separately.

**Item Number 9:** If you were married before, provide the requested information about your prior spouse including full legal name, immigration status (if known), date of birth, country of birth, country of citizenship or nationality, date of marriage with prior spouse, date marriage ended with prior spouse, and how the marriage ended with prior spouse. If you have more than one previous marriage, provide that information on a separate sheet of paper. If you were married to the same person more than one time, provide the requested information about each marriage separately.

## **Part 11 - Information About Your Children:**

**Item Number 1:** Indicate your total number of children. Count all your children, regardless of whether they are alive, missing, deceased; born in other countries or in the United States; under 18 years of age or over 18 years of age; married or unmarried; living with you or elsewhere; current stepchildren; legally adopted children; or children born when you were not married.

**Item Number 2:** Provide information about all your children listed in Item Number 1., regardless of age. If needed, use a separate sheet of paper to provide the information requested. Provide the following information for each child including the child's current legal name; A-Number (if applicable); date of birth; country of birth (type or print the name of the country at the time of your child's birth, even if the name changed); relationship to you (for example, biological child, stepchild, legally adopted child); and current address.

»» If your son or daughter is living with you, type or print "Child Residing with Me" in the space provided for the child's address;

»» If your son or daughter is not living with you, type or print the address where your child resides; or

»» If your son or daughter is missing or deceased, type or print "Child Missing" or "Child Deceased" in the space provided for the address.

## **Part 12 - Additional Information About You (Person Applying for Naturalization):**

**Item Numbers 1 – 50:** Answer each question by selecting "Yes" or "No," where applicable. If any part of a question applies to you or has ever applied to you, you must answer "Yes." If you answer "Yes" to any of the questions in *Item Numbers 1 - 44* in this part, include a typed or printed explanation on a separate sheet of paper. You may also provide evidence to support your answers. If you answer "No" to any question in *Item Numbers 45 - 50*, include a typed or

printed explanation on a separate sheet of paper. Your answers, whether “Yes” or “No,” will not automatically cause your application to be denied.

**Part 13 - Applicant’s Statement, Certification, and Signature:**

**Item Numbers 1 - 6:** Select the appropriate box to indicate whether you read this application yourself or whether you had an interpreter assist you. If someone assisted you in completing the application, select the box indicating that you used a preparer. Further, you must sign and date your application. Every application **MUST** contain the signature of the applicant (or parent or legal guardian, if applicable). A stamped or typewritten name in place of a signature is not acceptable. You may place an “X” mark instead of a signature if you are unable to write in any language. USCIS will reject your Form N-400 if it is not signed.

**Part 14 - Interpreter’s Contact Information, Certification, and Signature:**

**Item Numbers 1 - 7:** If you used anyone as an interpreter to read the Instructions and questions on this application to you in a language in which you are fluent, the interpreter must fill out this section, provide his or her name, the name and address of his or her business or organization (if any), his or her daytime telephone number, his or her mobile telephone number (if any), and his or her email address (if any). The interpreter must sign and date the application.

**Part 15 - Contact Information, Declaration, and Signature of the Person Preparing this Application, if Other Than the Applicant:**

**Item Numbers 1 - 8:** This section must contain the signature of the person who completed your application, if other than you, the applicant. If the same individual acted as your interpreter and your preparer, that person should complete both *Part 14* and *Part 15*. If the person who completed this application is associated with a business or organization, that person should complete the business or organization name and address information. Anyone who helped you complete this application **MUST** sign and date the application. A stamped or typewritten name in place of a signature is not acceptable. If the person who helped you prepare your application is an attorney or accredited representative whose representation extends beyond preparation of the application, he or she may be obliged to also submit a completed Form G-28 (Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Accredited Representative), along with your application. USCIS will reject your Form N-400 if it is not signed by the preparer you used to prepare the questions on the application.

**NOTE: DO NOT COMPLETE PARTS 16, 17 AND 18 UNTIL A USCIS OFFICER INSTRUCTS YOU TO DO SO AT THE INTERVIEW.**

**Part 16 - Signature at Interview:**

*Do not* complete this part. The USCIS Officer will ask you to complete this part at your interview.

**Part 17 - Renunciation of Foreign Titles:**

*Do not* complete this part until a USCIS Officer instructs you to do so at your interview.

Most people do not have a foreign hereditary title or order of nobility. This part will apply only if you answered “Yes” to Part 12., Items A and B, in Item Number 4. If you do have a hereditary title or order of nobility, the law requires you to renounce this title as part of your oath ceremony to become a U.S. citizen. In Part 17 you must affirm you are ready to do so.

**Part 18 - Oath of Allegiance:**

*Do not* complete this part. The USCIS Officer will ask you to complete this part at your interview.

If USCIS approves your application, you must take this Oath of Allegiance to become a U.S. citizen. In limited cases, you can take a modified oath. The oath requirement cannot be waived unless you are unable to understand its meaning because of a physical or developmental disability or mental impairment. For more information, see *A Guide to Naturalization* (M-476). Your signature on this application only indicates that you have no objections to taking the Oath of Allegiance. It does not mean that you have taken the oath or that you are naturalized. If USCIS approves your

Form N-400 for naturalization, you must attend an oath ceremony and take the Oath of Allegiance to the United States.

**WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU PRINT OR SAVE A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION TO REVIEW IN THE FUTURE AND FOR YOUR RECORDS.**

## Processing Information:

Any Form N-400 that is not signed or accompanied by the correct filing fee and biometric services fee will be rejected. Any application that is not completed in accordance with these Instructions, is missing pages, or otherwise not executed in its entirety, or is not accompanied by the required initial evidence, may also be rejected. If your Form N-400 is rejected, the application and any fees will be returned to you and you will be notified why the application is considered deficient. You may correct the deficiency and resubmit Form N-400. An application is not considered properly filed until accepted by USCIS.

**Initial Processing:** Once USCIS accepts your application, we will check it for completeness. If you do not completely fill out this application, you will not establish a basis for your eligibility and USCIS may reject or deny your application. Form N-400 Instructions 12/23/16 N Page 17 of 18.

**Requests for More Information:** We may request that you provide more information or evidence to support your application. We may also request that you provide the originals of any copies you submit. If USCIS requests an original document from you, it will be returned to you after USCIS determines it no longer needs your original.

**Requests for Interview:** We may request that you appear at a USCIS office for an interview based on your application. At the time of any interview or other appearance at a USCIS office, we may require that you provide your fingerprints, photograph, and/or signature to verify your identity and/or update background and security checks.

**Decision:** The decision on Form N-400 involves a determination of whether you have established eligibility for the immigration benefit you are seeking. USCIS will notify you of the decision in writing.