How-To Guide and Online Resource/Referrals Info:
Naturalization

What are the advantages of U.S. Citizenship?
Some rights granted by the Constitution and laws of the United States are only for citizens, such as voting, shorter wait time in bringing family members to the United States, obtaining citizenship for children born abroad, traveling with a U.S. passport, becoming eligible for federal jobs, and becoming an elected official.

What are the Eligibility Requirements?
You may apply for U.S. citizenship if you:
1. Are 18 years of age or older;
2. Have held Lawful Permanent Status for at least 4 years, 9 months, or at least 2 years, 9 months if married to a US Citizen, and you have been married and residing together continuously for 3 years, and your spouse has been a US Citizen for the past 3 years;
3. Have continuously resided in the United States for the past 5 years (at least 31 months out of the past 60 months);
4. Are able to meet the English language requirements for naturalization, including the civics/history exam portion of the naturalization interview (please note there are certain, limited exceptions to the English language requirement given to those who meet age and residency, or disability criteria).
5. Are a person of good moral character. Prior arrests or convictions could affect your eligibility to apply for citizenship and may have other consequences.

How Do I Apply for Citizenship?
To apply for citizenship from USCIS, you must submit:
1. Form N-400: Application for Naturalization [http://www.uscis.gov/n-400]
2. Form I-912: Application for Employment Authorization [http://www.uscis.gov/i-912] (otherwise must be accompanied by a fee of $725; or $640 for those applicants 75 years of age or older)

Please refer to each form’s filing instructions and submission addresses. USCIS will review for completeness, inclusion of above fee, initial evidence and supporting documents, thereafter you will receive a receipt notice and an appointment notice to visit an Application Support Center (ASC) for biometric (fingerprinting) service and later on, an appointment notice for an interview.

Am I Required to Apply for Citizenship After Five Years?
No, you are not legally required to ever apply for U.S. citizenship.

What Evidence and Supporting Documentation do I need to Provide?
- Front and back of your Lawful Permanent Resident card (green card)
- Your current passport
- Birth certificate, with translation, if applicable
- Marriage certificate, with translation, if applicable
- Judgment of divorce, with translation, if applicable
- Certificates of Disposition, if you have ever been arrested
- Tax returns from the most recent tax year, if you are requesting a fee waiver
- Proof of receipt of means-tested benefits, such as Medicaid and/or Food Stamps, if you are requesting a fee waiver

Please do not submit requests for naturalization until you have first obtained legal advice from an immigration attorney or a Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) or Department of Justice (DOJ) accredited representative.
Online Resources
USCIS Citizenship Resource Center: http://www.uscis.gov/citizenship

The USCIS Naturalization Interview and Test Video: http://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/learners/study-test/studymaterialsenglish-test/uscis-naturalization-interview-and-test-video

100 Civics Questions and Answers, with MP3 Audio (English version): http://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/teachers/educationalproducts/100-civics-questions-and-answers-mp3-audio-english-version

Referral Information

NALEO Educational Fund
Bilingual Hotline: 1-888-839-8682