



TELEPHONE
(212) 319-2555

Fax
(212) 980-9475

CONSULATE GENERAL OF IRELAND
345 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10154-0037

Irish Citizenship by Descent Foreign Births Registration

Please note that the following information is intended for guidance only and it does not constitute a formal interpretation of Irish law

The law regarding Irish citizenship is set out in the *Irish Nationality and Citizenship Acts 1956 – 2004* as amended.

Irish Citizenship By Birth

- Anyone born in Ireland is automatically an Irish citizen (excluding children of parents holding diplomatic immunity in Ireland)
- Anyone born outside Ireland whose father or mother is an Irish citizen born in Ireland, is automatically an Irish citizen

If one of the above does not apply, citizenship is not automatic and must be acquired through application.

Acquiring Irish Citizenship by Descent

Citizenship by descent (Foreign Birth Registration) is acquired by making an application to register the applicant's birth in the Foreign Births Register at the Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland, if living in Ireland or in the Foreign Births Entry Book at the relevant Irish Embassy or Consulate abroad. Please note that the application must be submitted to the Embassy/Consulate which has responsibility for the jurisdiction in which the applicant is currently resident (list attached).

In order to obtain Irish citizenship through descent one parent must be an Irish citizen at the time of the applicant's birth. In the case of most applicants for Foreign Birth Registration, the applicant's parent will have derived their Irish citizenship through an Irish-born parent (the applicant's grandparent)

Where a parent derived Irish citizenship in another manner e.g. through marriage, adoption, naturalisation or through

Foreign Birth Registration, the person should contact the Consulate directly regarding their eligibility for Irish citizenship.

Dual Citizenship

Irish law permits dual citizenship and does not require applicants to renounce any other citizenship held at the time of application. Applicants should however always clarify the position governing the adoption of a second citizenship with the authorities of their other country of citizenship.

Processing of applications

An application form and information sheet detailing the documentary requirements for Foreign Births Registration is attached. Please read the information provided carefully before completing and submitting an application.

In the case of the New York Consulate, applicants should allow 12 months (from receipt of all the supporting documentation at the Consulate) to complete the application process. Once the applicant has been registered in the Foreign Birth Entry Book, the Consulate will forward a certificate confirming their registration. This is the applicant's proof of Irish citizenship. If the citizen wishes, a separate application for an Irish passport may then be made. **Please note that the Consulate does not accept a passport application at the time of citizenship application and that these are two distinct processes.**

All queries should be directed to (212) 319 2558 between 09.00 - 12.00 and 14.00 - 15.00, Monday to Friday. Public office hours are 10-12noon, Monday through Friday.

Requirements for registration in the Foreign Births Entry Book

- Where an applicant is claiming Irish citizenship through an Irish-born grandparent, the documentary evidence listed overleaf must be produced before registration in the Foreign Births Entry Book.
- The documents are requested to prove the identity of the applicant and the relationship between the applicant, the parent and the Irish-born grandparent. Supplementary documentation will be requested when the supporting documents listed

below are unobtainable, inaccurate or ambiguous.

- Where the applicant's parent derived Irish citizenship in another manner e.g. through marriage, adoption, naturalisation or through Foreign Birth Registration, the applicant should contact the Consulate directly regarding the documentary evidence required.

Please note the following important specifications in relation to the documentary evidence -

- All certificates submitted as evidence must be 'originals' i.e. state issued, state certified copies bearing the raised seal of the issuing authority. Photocopies of such documents are not acceptable. The original plus one photocopy of each document must be forwarded to the Consulate.
- Church certified baptism and marriage certificates may be considered only when an applicant can produce a statement from the relevant state authority to the effect that they have been unsuccessful in their search for the civil record.
- Birth records have been maintained in Ireland since 1864 and copies may be obtained by applying to the Registrar of Births in Dublin or to the Superintendent Registrar of the district where your grandparent was born (see list attached).

Requests to the Registrar should detail the grandparent's full name, their date and place of birth and their parents' names. If this information is not already known, it is often obtainable from the grandparent's marriage or death certificate.

- Hospital certified birth certificates are not acceptable.
- All other necessary supporting documents e.g. proofs of identity, must be originals or notarised copies of originals. Please do not forward originals of passports, drivers licences or other important documentation.

Fees

- The following are the fees for registration in the Foreign Births Entry Book -

Persons 18 years of age or over	US\$178
Persons under 18 years of age	US\$67

- Fees should be paid by certified cheque, bank draft or money or postal order and should be made payable to the Consulate General of Ireland. Fees

are inclusive of all postal and other communications costs.

- If you wish to have your supporting documentation returned prior to your entry in the Foreign Births Entry Book, please include a note to this effect and an additional US \$15 for return by Express mail.



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Documents relating to Yourself

1. A correctly completed and witnessed application form (FB1A for persons over 18 years of age or FB1B for persons aged 18 years or younger) must be submitted to the Consulate with the appropriate fee.
2. Two recent passport type photographs which must be signed and dated on the reverse by the witness to Section E of the application form at the same time as the form is witnessed.
3. Full/long form birth certificate, showing parents' names, places of birth and ages at the time of birth. Birth certificates which do not contain this information are not sufficient in themselves to establish a clear relationship to the parent.
4. Where there is a change of name e.g. on marriage, supporting documentation must be provided e.g. marriage certificate.
5. Notarised copy of current passport or other satisfactory proof of your identity e.g. photo i.d. such as drivers licence. Proof that you are resident at the address given on the application (e.g. current utility bills, bank statements). No less than three items in all.
6. In the case of a person under 18, the person submitting the application (a parent or guardian) must
 - sign the application form
 - submit photos signed and dated by the witness
 - submit proofs of identity and residence as above

Documents relating to your Parent

7. Full/long form birth certificate showing grandparents' names, places of birth and ages at the time of birth. Birth certificates which do not contain this information are not sufficient in themselves to establish a clear relationship to the Irish-born grandparent.
8. Marriage licence application and certificate, if applicable, showing parents' names, places of birth and ages at the time of marriage and if possible showing grandparents' names and places of birth.
9. One additional certified document e.g. notarised copies of parent's current i.d. (passport, drivers licence) or death certificate, if applicable.

Documents relating to your Grandparent

10. Full/long form Irish birth certificate
11. Marriage licence application and certificate, if applicable, showing grandparents' names, places of birth and ages at the time of marriage and if possible showing great-grandparents' names and places of birth.
12. One additional certified document e.g. notarised copies of grandparent's current i.d. (passport, drivers licence), naturalisation papers or death certificate, if applicable.

Consular Districts in the United States

Please note the States for which each of the Consulates in the United States has responsibility and direct your application to the Consulate which has responsibility for the State in which you are resident.

New York

Consulate General of Ireland,
345 Park Avenue,
17th Floor,
New York,
NY 10154-0037
Tel: (212) 319 2555
email: congenny@aol.com

New York, Connecticut, New
Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware,
West Virginia, North Carolina,
South Carolina, Georgia,
Florida

Boston

Consulate General of Ireland,
535 Boylston Street
Boston Mass 02116
Tel: (617) 267 9330
email: irlcons@aol.com

Maine, New Hampshire,
Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode
Island

Chicago

Consulate General of Ireland,
400 North Michigan Avenue,
Chicago,
Il 60611
Tel (312) 337 1868

Email:
irishcconsulate@sbcglobal.net

North Dakota, South Dakota,
Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma,
Texas, Minnesota, Iowa,
Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana,
Mississippi, Alabama,
Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois,
Indiana, Ohio, Michigan,
Wisconsin

San Francisco

Consulate General of Ireland,
100 Pine Street,
33rd Floor,
San Francisco,
CA 94111
Tel: (415) 392 4214
email: irishcgsf@earthlink.net

Washington, Oregon,
California, Nevada, Arizona,
Utah, Idaho, Montana,
Wyoming, Colorado, New
Mexico, Alaska, Hawaii

Washington

Embassy of Ireland,
2234 Massachusetts Avenue
N.W.,
Washington D.C. 20008
Tel: (202) 462 3939
email: embirlus@aol.com

Washington DC, Virginia,
Maryland

Application for Birth Certificate

- PLEASE COMPLETE USING BLOCK CAPITALS.
- ITEMS MARKED WITH * SHOULD BE COMPLETED. INCOMPLETE FORMS MAY BE RETURNED.

SECTION 1: Details of Person Applying for the Certificate

*Applicant's Forename: *Full Postal Address:

*Applicant's Surname:

Telephone:

Email:

SECTION 2: Details of Person whose Birth Certificate is Requested

PPS Number (if known): * Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy):

*Birth Surname:

*Forename(s) in full:

*Address of Place of Birth (Hospital/Home)

Town County

*Sex:

*Mother's Birth Surname: Mother's Forename

Father's Surname: Father's Forename

Father's Occupation: Mother's Occupation.....

*Has the person to whom the record refers been legally adopted? Yes No

SECTION 3: Further Details

Please enter the number and type of certificates required in the relevant boxes. See explanation of different types of certificate overleaf, including certificate costs and postal charges.

Full (Long Form) Specified Services Short Authenticated
Photocopy

Method of Payment:

Cash Cheque Credit Card

If paying by credit card, please indicate whether MasterCard Visa

Note: Debit card payments can only be accepted from personal callers to our public counter.

Signature of Card Holder:..... Expiry Date (mm/yy):.....

Card Number: ----

Application for Birth Certificate

How Do I Apply?

- In Person:** Complete details below and present at public counter.
- By Post:** Complete details below and send to *The General Register Office*
Government offices
Convent Road
Roscommon, Ireland
- By Fax:** Complete details below and fax to +353-90-66-32999.

Types and Costs of Certificates

Type	Description	Cost €
Full (Long Form)	This is a full copy of the registered entry and can be used for most legal and administrative purposes.	€6.98
Additional Copies	Additional copies when requested as part of this order.	€5.08
Specified Services. (aka Social Welfare Cert)	This is a full copy of the registered entry. Proof that the certificate is needed for such purpose will be required from the relevant office/agency. See Note 3	€0.89
Authenticated	This is required in certain circumstances and is available on request from the General Registration Office, Joyce House, 8/11 Lombard Street East, Dublin 2	€8.88

Note 1 If the record you have requested cannot be found, a search fee of €1.90 will be charged.

Note 2 Photocopies of entries in the registers are also available at a cost of €1.90, these contain exactly the same information as a Certificate but are only of use for research purposes.

Note 3 Specified Services Certificates are only available from the General Register Office in respect of Registers that are in the sole possession of this office i.e. Register of Adopted Children and Non-Catholic Marriages. Specified Services Certificates for Births, Death and Roman Catholic Marriages are only available from the appropriate County Superintendents Office.

Further Information is available from the General Registrar's Website at www.groireland.ie.

How Do I Pay?

- Cash:** Personal applications only please. **Only Euro Cash will be accepted.**
- Cheque:** Please note that cheques should be made payable to **The Registration Office** **Only Euro cheques drawn on an Irish bank will be accepted.**
- Credit/Debit Card:** MasterCard and Visa credit cards are accepted. The name of the applicant and the name on the credit card must be the same. Laser Debit cards are accepted but only where presented in person at public counter.

Irish Nationality and Citizenship Acts 1956 and 1986

Application by a person aged 18 years and upwards who wishes to become an Irish citizen by the registration process laid down in Section 27 of the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1956.

FB1A

(Please read the attached explanatory note to find out if you are eligible to apply for registration. This note also outlines the documentary evidence that must be produced to support your claim.)

Section A: Details of person whose birth is to be registered

Full Forenames						
Surname <small>(at time of birth)</small>			Current Surname <small>(if different)</small>			
Place of Birth	Date of Birth	day	month	year	Sex	
					M	F

Section B: Details of parent through whom Irish citizenship is said to be derived

Full Forenames						
Surname			Original Surname <small>(if different)</small>			
Place of Birth	Date of Birth	day	month	year	Sex	
					M	F
Did parent acquire Irish citizenship by virtue of <i>(tick one of the following)</i>						
Birth to an Irish born person				Naturalisation		
Foreign Births Registration				Post Nuptial Declaration		
If Irish citizenship was acquired by Foreign Birth Registration, Naturalisation or Post Nuptial Declaration, please supply details separately.						
Did this person ever make a 'Declaration of Alienage' (renouncing Irish citizenship) to the Minister for Justice of Ireland or through any Irish Embassy or Consulate?						
No	Yes	on the following date		day	month	year

Section C: Details of Grandparent born in Ireland (if appropriate)

Full Forenames						
Surname			Original Surname <small>(if different)</small>			
Place of Birth	Date of Birth	day	month	year	Sex	
					M	F
Did this person ever make a 'Declaration of Alienage' (renouncing Irish citizenship) to the Minister for Justice of Ireland or through any Irish Embassy or Consulate?						
No	Yes	on the following date		day	month	year

Section D: Details of Applicant

(To be signed in the presence of the witness at Section E below)

I declare that the particulars in this application are correct, that the accompanying photographs and certificates relate to me, and that I wish to become a citizen of Ireland.

Signature of Applicant		Date
Address		
Daytime Phone No.	Home Phone No.	

Section E: Certificate of Identity

One of the following (who is not a relative) must sign this certificate.

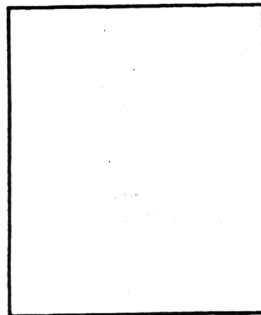
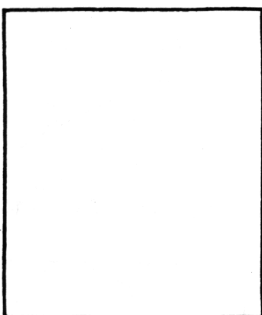
- Clergyman
- Medical Doctor
- School Principal
- Bank Manager
- Lawyer
- Policeman
- Magistrate/Judge

(Do not certify unless satisfied as to the applicant's identity. You may be contacted to confirm your signature and your basis for signing.)

I certify that the applicant is personally known to me, (or s/he has been identified to me by

_____ who is personally known to me) and has signed Section D in my presence. I also certify that the photographs (on the reverse of which I have signed my name and written the date) supplied with this application are a true likeness of the applicant.

Signature of Witness	
Address	Name (BLOCK LETTERS)
	Profession
	Daytime Phone No.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF APPLICANT**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

Examined	
Verified	
Signed	