

# INFOSHEET

## APPLICATION FOR IRISH CITIZENSHIP

In order to apply for citizenship through naturalisation in Ireland, there are certain criteria you must be able to satisfy.

### **Who can apply?**

In order to apply for Irish citizenship, you must be living in Ireland for at least 5 years prior to application.

The eligibility criteria:

- The applicant must be living in the State for five of the nine years preceding the application. The last year of this period must be continuous residence.
- The applicant must be a resident in the State;
- The applicant must be 18 years of age or older;
- The applicant must satisfy the Minister that they are of good character.
- The applicant must satisfy the Minister that they intend to live in Ireland after naturalisation.
- The applicant must make a formal declaration of fidelity to the nation and loyalty to the State.

### **Need assistance with citizenship application?**

#### **Contact**

Citizen's Information  
Centre  
54 Catherine Street  
Limerick city centre

☎ 0761 07 5780

✉ [limerick@citinfo.ie](mailto:limerick@citinfo.ie)

Citizenship application  
assistance:

Monday  
9:30am – 4:30pm

For Detailed information on the Eligibility criteria: visit the [INIS website here](#).

### **Living in Ireland for 5 years**

The 5 year rule is known as 'reckonable residence'. There are strict conditions surrounding 'reckonable residence'. For example, time spent living in Ireland while claiming asylum is not accepted as 'reckonable residence'. Similarly, time spent in Ireland for the purposes of study (while holding a student visa) is not accepted as 'reckonable residence'.

You can use the [online residency calculator on the INIS website](#) to check if you meet the naturalisation residency conditions. You must then print a copy of the results and include it in your application.

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## How to apply?

You must download the relevant application form from the INIS website ([available here](#)).

There are four different types of application form:

- 1) For adult applications (person over the age of 18 years): Form 8 (person over 18 years);
- 2) For minor child applications (under the age of 18 years): Form 9 for a minor child of a naturalised Irish citizen.
- 3) Form 10 for a minor child of Irish descent or Irish associations. This is an e-form, which is filled in electronically/ online.
- 4) Form 11 for a minor child born in the State without an entitlement to Irish citizenship. This is an e-form, which is filled in electronically/ online.

**Return New Adult Applications**  
(FORM 8) to:

Citizenship Applications (Adult)  
PO Box 73  
Tipperary Town

**Return New Minor Child**  
**Applications** (FORM 9/10/11) to:

Citizenship Applications (Minor)  
PO Box **12079**  
Dublin 1

The application must be completed and returned to the above address, along with the necessary documentation and application fee of €175.

## Required documents:

- \*Certified colour copy of your current passport/ travel document (including personal details, photograph);
- \*Certified colour copy of all previous passports held during period of residence in Ireland;
- Copy of original birth certificate and a English translated copy if relevant;
- 2 recent colour photographs (no more than 30 days old);
- Copy of current Garda national Immigration Bureau card;
- Letter from current employer showing dates of employment; 3 recent pay slips; copy of current P21 or P60 (from Revenue Commissioners);
- Copies of bank statements for all bank accounts held over the previous 6 months;
- Evidence of marriage if relevant (\*Certified copies of marriage certificate);

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- Copies of your residency permissions;
- A printout from the online residency calculator showing the residency permissions;
- Signed Statutory Declaration.

**\*Certified copy** = Take original document or certificate to a solicitor. They will make a copy of the document and sign/ stamp it for you.

For assistance with citizenship applications, please contact the [Citizens Information Centre](#) on Catherine Street, Limerick, at the contact details above.

**Useful links:**

[www.inis.gov.ie](http://www.inis.gov.ie)

[www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie)

[www.newcommunities.ie](http://www.newcommunities.ie)

**Disclaimer:** This information has been prepared by Doras Luimni for information purposes only, with no guarantee as to accuracy or applicability to a particular set of circumstances. The information may change from time-to-time and may be out of date.