

Source: <http://lgstarr.blogspot.com/2016/02/11-steps-to-president-of-united-states.html>

Advice about Possible Loss of U.S. Nationality and Dual Nationality - see far below  
Who can Vote in Canada - see the very end.

## Citizenship Rules for Children Born Abroad (in Canada) 4-2016

According to the U.S. State Department, Bureau of Consular Affairs, the U.S. citizen parent(s) of a child born on foreign soil must obtain a Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA, Form FS-240) at some time prior to the child's eighteenth birthday if the parent desires to pass on their U.S. citizenship to their offspring. Published rules of the Bureau read as follows:

“If you determine that the child born abroad qualifies for U.S. citizenship, please follow the instructions below in order to complete the required forms, prepare the necessary documents, and make an appointment at the U.S. Consulate General in Montreal. All applicants will need to provide the following forms and documents:

- Completed Form DS-2029 (50KB PDF). Please complete the form, but do NOT sign.
- Completed Application for a Social Security Number (Form SS-5-FS).
- Child's original civil birth certificate.
- Proof of parent's or parents' U.S. citizenship (i.e. U.S. passport, Certificate of Naturalization and Citizenship, Consular Report of Birth Abroad, etc.).
- Proof of identity of parents and child (i.e. passports, regardless of nationality).
- Parents' original civil marriage certificate.
- Termination of any previous marriages of either parent (i.e. divorce decree, death certificate, etc.) if applicable.
- Fee of US\$100 payable in cash (U.S. or Canadian), or Visa, Mastercard.
- If only one parent is a U.S. citizen, evidence of his/her physical presence in the United States sufficient to transmit citizenship to the child (as indicated in [http://canada.usembassy.gov/consular\\_services/birth-abroad.html](http://canada.usembassy.gov/consular_services/birth-abroad.html) ).
- Make an appointment online before you show up at the Consulate.
- All children must appear in person with the parent signing.

Please bring a return Canada Post Express Post envelope with you to your appointment so that we can mail your Consular Report of Birth Abroad to you when it is ready. Alternatively, you can pick it up two weeks later during our public hours.”

In other words, it is not simply a matter of stopping off at the nearest U.S. Consulate with a newborn infant to announce that you are a U.S. citizen, that the child was born on foreign soil, and that you would like to insure that your American citizenship is passed on by descent to the child in question.

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At this time, April 2016, the website changed and requirements are now found at:  
<https://ca.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/birth/>

## Birth

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1. Overview
2. [Required Supporting Documents Checklist](#)

### 3. [Transmitting Citizenship](#) (see below)

A Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) is official evidence of United States citizenship, issued to a child born abroad to a U.S. citizen parent or parents, who meet the requirements for transmitting citizenship under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

CRBA applications must be made before the child's 18th birthday, and we strongly recommend that parents apply for the CRBA as soon as possible after the child's birth.

#### [Do you qualify to pass on U.S. citizenship to your child?](#)

Upon review of the information provided in the above link, if you believe that your child has a claim to U.S. citizenship, you should prepare the appropriate documentation and [schedule an appointment](#) for the child to appear in person at the nearest embassy or consulate to submit the application.

As a CRBA **is not** a travel document, it is strongly recommended that you submit an application for the child's U.S. passport and social security number at the same time. All three applications may be submitted together at your scheduled appointment. Even if your child holds another nationality, he or she **must** enter and exit the United States on a U.S. passport.

(**Note:** It is not necessary to obtain a CRBA. If it is more convenient, you may apply for a passport in lieu of a CRBA. In Canada, please consult the [Apply for a Passport](#) section of this website. In the United States, you may apply at any passport acceptance agency. Consult [the State Department website](#) to find the passport acceptance agency closest to you.)

The steps required to apply for a CRBA are as follows:

## Steps to Apply for a CRBA

### [1. CRBA Forms](#)

Parents will need to complete the following forms. After completion, the forms must be printed. We recommend that they are completed on a desktop computer, with a printer. **DO NOT** sign the forms.

Completed Application for Consular Report of Birth: Form [DS-2029](#) (PDF – 345 KB).

Completed Application for a Passport: Form [DS-11](#).

### [2. Required Supporting Documents](#)

[Please click here](#) for a list of the required documents. Failure to present all the relevant documents will delay your application.

### [3. If Only One Parent Can Attend](#)

We advise that both parents should be present at the appointment. However, we recognize that it may not be possible in all cases.

If one custodial parent is not able to attend, they must submit a notarized Form DS-3053 Statement of Consent. The form can be [downloaded here](#) (PDF – 42 KB).

At the time the DS-3053 form is presented, a copy of the **same identity document** used to notarize the form must also be provided.

Alternatively, the applying parent may furnish one of the following documents:

- Child’s birth certificate listing only applying parent
- Adoption decree (if applying parent is sole adopting parent)
- Court Order granting sole custody to the applying parent (i.e the absent parent has no access to the child). Child’s travel must not be restricted by that order.
- Judicial declaration of incompetence of non-applying parent, or death certificate of non-applying parent

**If the parents were not married** at the time of the child’s birth and the U.S. Citizen father is not able to attend the appointment, Form DS-5507 Affidavit of Parentage, Physical Presence and Support is required. The form can be [downloaded here](#) (PDF – 281 KB). The form must be completed, signed and notarized, and should be presented along with a copy of the same identity document used to notarize the form.

#### **[4. Scheduling the Appointment](#)**

Please do not schedule an appointment until you have reviewed the checklist for a Consular Report of Birth Abroad and have completed the required application forms and obtained the relevant supporting documentation. Please note that you are required to schedule separate appointments for each child to be registered.

Once you have compiled the necessary documents, please schedule your appointment with the Consular section closest to you at the [American Citizen Services scheduling system](#).

#### **From #2 above:**

In addition to the previously mentioned forms DS-2029, DS-11, and SS-5 (if appropriate), each applicant will require:

Child’s official long-form provincial birth record	Long-form birth certificate or record of birth, which lists not only the child’s information but also that of the parents, as well as the date the document was officially filed. A short certificate missing this information will not be accepted.
Original marriage certificate	If the parents are married, they must present an original or court-certified, sealed copy of the Marriage Certificate issued by the appropriate authorities in the country in which the marriage took place. Church/Religious certificates are not acceptable. Marriage certificates in languages other than English must be translated by an authorized translator. The original certificate must be presented along with any translation. If the parents <b>are not married</b> , this is not required.
Divorce or death certificate	If either parent has been married previously, they should present the original or court certified, sealed copy of divorce decrees or death certificates for all previous marriages. Documents in languages other than English must be translated by an authorized translator. The original decree(s) or death certificate must be presented along with any translation. If neither parent has been

Evidence of parent's U.S. citizenship	<p>married previously, this does not apply.</p> <p>The U.S. citizen parent must present his/her US passport. If the U.S. citizen parent was naturalized he/she must bring the original Certificate of Naturalization or Citizenship in addition to their passport.</p>
Proof of physical presence	<p>The U.S. citizen parent(s) will be asked to present proof of his/her/their physical presence in the U.S. The best examples include, but are not limited to, current/previous passports (showing entry/exit stamps), high school transcripts, college transcripts, military records, employment records.</p>
Passport/identification document for non-U.S. Citizen parent	<p>The non-U.S. citizen parent must bring his/her foreign passport or other government issued photo identification document.</p>
Passport photograph	<p>One passport sized (2x2 inch) photograph — see photo requirements for specific information. Photos which do not meet the requirements will be rejected.</p>
Application fee(s)	<p>Fees for State Department services occasionally change. For the most up-to-date information, please visit the State Department website for information on fees for <a href="#">passports</a> and <a href="#">all other consular services</a>.</p>

# Transmitting Citizenship

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1. [Overview](#)
2. [Required Supporting Documents Checklist](#)
3. Transmitting Citizenship

Children born abroad to a U.S. citizen parent(s) (under the age of 18) may have a claim to U.S. citizenship. The following is a brief description of the various circumstances under which a child born abroad may acquire U.S. citizenship. For further information please select the description below that best fits your family circumstances.

Transmission of U.S. citizenship depends on:

- At least one parent having the nationality of the United States at the time of the child's birth;
- The existence of a blood relationship between the child and U.S. citizen parent(s);
- Documentary evidence demonstrating the U.S. citizen parent(s)' presence in the United States *prior to the child's birth*, as specified in the Transmission Requirements Table below.

## Examples of Documentation

Some examples of documentary evidence which may be considered to demonstrate that physical presence requirements have been met may include (but are not limited to):

- Wage and tax statements (W-2)
- Academic transcripts
- Employment records
- Rental receipts
- Records of honorable U.S. military service, employment with U.S. Government or certain intergovernmental international organizations; or as a dependent, unmarried child and member of the household of a parent in such service or employment (except where indicated).
- *U.S. passport stamps may be considered a part of the evidence submitted, but should not be the sole documentary evidence. Drivers' licenses **do not** constitute evidence of physical presence.*

If you have other children who have been issued with a Consular Report of Birth Abroad, this may be considered as supplemental evidence. Please also read important information regarding Supporting Documents.

### Transmission Requirements Table

<b>Child born in wedlock to two U.S. citizens</b>	<p>A child born outside of the United States or its outlying possessions to two U.S. citizen parents, in wedlock, is entitled to citizenship, provided one of the parents had, prior to the birth of the child, been resident in the United States or one of its outlying possessions. (No specific period of time is required.)</p>
	<p>NOTE: A child born to two U.S. citizens, out of wedlock should refer to number 3 or 4 below (whichever favorably applies).</p>
<b>Child born in wedlock to one U.S. citizen parent and one non U.S. citizen parent (on or after November 14, 1986)</b>	<p>A child born outside of the United States to one U.S. citizen parent and one non-U.S. citizen parent may be entitled to citizenship providing the U.S. citizen parent had been physically present in the United States or one of its outlying possessions for five years, at least two years of which were after s/he reached the age of fourteen.</p>
<b>Child born out of wedlock to a U.S. Citizen mother</b>	<p>A child born outside of the United States and out of wedlock to a U.S. citizen mother may be entitled to U.S. citizenship providing the U.S. Citizen mother had been physically present in the United States for a continuous period of at least one year (365 days) at some time prior to the birth of the child. (NOTE: Periods spent overseas with the U.S. government/military or as a government/military dependent, are NOT considered as physical presence in the U.S. for transmission under this category.)</p>
<b>Child born out of wedlock to a U.S. Citizen father</b>	<p>A child born outside of the United States and out of wedlock to a U.S. Citizen father may be entitled to U.S. Citizenship providing the U.S. citizen father had been physically present in the United States or one of its outlying possessions for five years, at least two years of which were after he reached the age of fourteen. In addition the U.S. citizen father must acknowledge paternity and agree in writing to provide financial support for the child until s/he reaches the age of 18 years.</p>

NOTE: All periods of residence or physical presence must have taken place prior to the birth of the child.

Adopted children or children under 18, born to U.S. citizens who are not eligible for U.S. citizenship as described above may be eligible under the Child Citizenship Act of 2000. Further information is available from the [Department of State's website](#).

If you are over 18 and believe you have a claim to U.S. citizenship, please review our [citizenship information page](#).

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## Advice about Possible Loss of U.S. Nationality and Dual Nationality

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal-considerations/us-citizenship-laws-policies/citizenship-and-dual-nationality.html>

# Advice about Possible Loss of U.S. Nationality and Dual Nationality

The Department of State is responsible for determining the nationality status of a person located outside the United States or in connection with the application for a U.S. passport while in the United

**States.** Section 101(a)(22) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) states that “the term ‘national of the United States’ means (A) a citizen of the United States, or (B) a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States.” Therefore, U.S. citizens are also U.S. nationals. Non-citizen nationality status refers only to individuals who were born either in American Samoa or on Swains Island to parents who are not citizens of the United States.

## Potentially Expatriating Acts

Section 349 of the INA ([8 U.S.C. 1481](#)), as amended, states that U.S. nationals are subject to loss of nationality if they perform certain *specified* acts *voluntarily* and *with the intention to relinquish* U.S. nationality. Briefly stated, these acts include:

1. obtaining naturalization in a foreign state upon one's own application after the age of 18 (Sec. 349 (a) (1) INA);
2. taking an oath, affirmation or other formal declaration of allegiance to a foreign state or its political subdivisions after the age of 18 (Sec. 349 (a) (2) INA);
3. entering or serving in the armed forces of a foreign state engaged in hostilities against the United States or serving as a commissioned or non-commissioned officer in the armed forces of a foreign state (Sec. 349 (a) (3) INA);
4. accepting employment with a foreign government after the age of 18 if (a) one has the nationality of that foreign state or (b) an oath or declaration of allegiance is required in accepting the position (Sec. 349 (a) (4) INA);
5. formally renouncing U.S. nationality before a U.S. diplomatic or consular officer outside the United States (sec. 349 (a) (5) INA);
6. formally renouncing U.S. nationality within the United States (The Department of Homeland Security is responsible for implementing this section of the law) (Sec. 349 (a) (6) INA);
7. conviction for an act of treason against the Government of the United States or for attempting to force to overthrow the Government of the United States (Sec. 349 (a) (7) INA).

## Administrative Standard of Evidence

As already noted, the actions listed above will result in the loss of U.S. nationality if performed voluntarily and with the intention of relinquishing U.S. nationality. The Department has a uniform administrative standard of evidence based on the premise that U.S. nationals intend to retain United States nationality when they obtain naturalization in a foreign state, declare their allegiance to a foreign state, serve in the armed forces of a foreign state not engaged in hostilities with the United States, or accept non-policy level employment with a foreign government.

## Disposition of Cases when Administrative Premise is Applicable

In light of the administrative premise discussed above, a person who:

1. is naturalized in a foreign country;
2. takes a routine oath of allegiance to a foreign state;
3. serves in the armed forces of a foreign state not engaged in hostilities with the United States, or
4. accepts non-policy level employment with a foreign government,

and in so doing wishes to retain U.S. nationality need not submit prior to the commission of a potentially expatriating act a statement or evidence of his or her intent to retain U.S. nationality since such an intent will be presumed.

When, as the result of an individual's inquiry or an individual's application for registration or a passport it comes to the attention of a U.S. consular officer that a U.S. national has performed an act made potentially expatriating by INA Sections 349(a)(1), 349(a)(2), 349(a)(3) or 349(a)(4) as described above, the consular officer will simply ask the applicant if he/she intended to relinquish U.S. nationality when performing the act. If the answer

is no, the consular officer will certify that it was not the person's intent to relinquish U.S. nationality and, consequently, find that the person has retained U.S. nationality.

### **Persons Who Wish to Relinquish U.S. Nationality**

If the answer to the question regarding intent to relinquish nationality is yes, the person concerned will be asked to complete a questionnaire to ascertain his or her intent toward U.S. nationality. When the questionnaire is completed and the voluntary relinquishment statement is signed, the consular officer will proceed to prepare a Certificate of Loss of Nationality of the United States. The certificate will be forwarded to the Department of State for consideration and, if appropriate, approval.

An individual who has performed any of the acts made potentially expatriating by statute who wishes to lose U.S. nationality may do so by affirming in writing to a U.S. consular officer that the act was performed voluntarily with an intent to relinquish U.S. nationality. A U.S. national also has the option to formally renounce U.S. nationality abroad in accordance with INA Section 349 (a) (5) .

### **Disposition of Cases When Administrative Premise Is Inapplicable**

The premise that a person intends to retain U.S. nationality is not applicable when the individual:

1. formally renounces U.S. nationality before a consular officer;
2. serves in the armed forces of a foreign state engaged in hostilities with the United States;
3. takes a policy level position in a foreign state;
4. is convicted of treason.

Cases in categories 2, 3 and 4 will be developed carefully by U.S. consular officers to ascertain the individual's intent toward U.S. nationality.

### **Applicability of Administrative Premise To Past Cases**

The premise established by the administrative standard of evidence is applicable to cases adjudicated previously. Persons who previously lost U.S. nationality may wish to have their cases reconsidered in light of this policy.

A person may initiate such a reconsideration by submitting a request to a U.S. embassy or consulate or by writing directly to:

#### **Express Mail:**

Director  
Office of Legal Affairs (CA/OCS/L)  
Bureau of Consular Affairs  
U.S. Department of State  
600 19<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.- 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20431  
Phone: 202-501-4444  
Fax: 202-485-8033

#### **Regular Mail**

Director  
U.S. Department of State  
CA/OCS/L  
SA-17, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20522-1710

Each case will be reviewed on its own merits taking into consideration, for example, written statements made by the person at the time of the commission of the potentially expatriating act.

### **Loss of Nationality and Taxation**

P.L. 104-191 contains changes in the taxation of U.S. nationals who renounce or otherwise lose U.S. nationality. In general, any person who lost U.S. nationality within 10 years immediately preceding the close of the taxable year, whose principle purpose in losing nationality was to avoid taxation, will be subject to continued taxation.

#### **See ...**

- [Internal Revenue Service Instructions for Completion of Form 8854](#)
- [Internal Revenue Service Guidance on Expatriation Reporting Requirements](#)
- [Internal Revenue Service Expatriation Tax](#)

Copies of approved Certificates of Loss of Nationality of the United States are provided by the Department of State to the Internal Revenue Service pursuant to P.L. 104-191. Questions regarding United States taxation consequences upon loss of U.S. nationality should be addressed to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

### **Dual Nationality**

Dual nationality means that a person is a national of two countries. A person who is a dual national owes allegiance to both countries. Dual nationality can occur as the result of a variety of circumstances. The automatic acquisition or retention of a foreign nationality, acquired, for example, by birth in a foreign country or through an alien parent, does not affect U.S. nationality. U.S. law does not require a person to choose one nationality over the other. It is prudent, however, to check with authorities of the other country to see if dual nationality is permissible under local law. Dual nationality can also occur when a person is naturalized in a foreign state without intending to relinquish U.S. nationality and is thereafter found not to have lost U.S. nationality: the individual consequently may possess dual nationality. The U.S. Government does not encourage dual nationality. While recognizing the existence of dual nationality and permitting Americans to have other nationalities, the U.S. Government also recognizes the problems which it may cause. Claims of other countries upon U.S. dual-nationals often place them in situations where their obligations to one country are in conflict with the laws of the other. In addition, their dual nationality may hamper efforts of the U.S. Government to provide consular protection to them when they are abroad, especially when they are in the country of their second nationality.

### **Additional Information**

See also information flyers on related subject available via the Department of State, [Bureau of Consular Affairs home page](#). These flyers include:

- [Advice About Possible Loss of U.S. Nationality and Seeking Public Office in a Foreign State](#)
- [Advice About Possible Loss of U.S. Nationality and Foreign Military Service](#)
- [Renunciation of United States Nationality](#)

# Advice About Possible Loss of U.S. Nationality and Seeking Public Office in a Foreign State

Section 101(a)(22) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA)) states that “the term ‘national of the United States’ means (A) a citizen of the United States, or (B) a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States.” Therefore, U.S. citizens are also U.S. nationals. Non-citizen nationality status refers only to individuals who were born either in American Samoa or on Swains Island to parents who are not citizens of the United States. Employment, while over the age of 18, with the government of a foreign country or a political subdivision thereof is a potentially expatriating act pursuant to Section 349(a)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act if you are a citizen of that foreign country or if you take an oath of allegiance to that country in connection to such employment. Such employment, however, will result in one's expatriation if done voluntarily with the intention of relinquishing U.S. citizenship.

The Department has, however, adopted a uniform administrative standard of evidence based on the premise that U.S. nationals intend to retain their U.S. citizenship when they naturalize as nationals of a foreign state, declare their allegiance to a foreign state, serve in the military forces of a foreign state not engaged in hostilities against the United States, or accept non-policy level employment with a foreign government. This administrative premise is not applicable when an individual fills a policy-level position with a foreign government. In such cases, the Department of State will carefully ascertain the individual's intent toward his or her U.S. nationality.

Because the Department presumes that U.S. nationals employed in non-policy level positions in a foreign government do not have the requisite intent to relinquish their U.S. nationality, U.S. nationals employed in such positions are not required to present evidence of an intent to retain their U.S. nationality when they commenced their employment with the foreign government. On the other hand, because there is no administrative presumption that U.S. nationals who hold policy-level positions in foreign governments necessarily intend to retain their U.S. nationality, efforts are made to adjudicate fully such cases to determine the individual's intent. Certain policy level positions are inherently incompatible with retaining U.S. nationality. Cases of this nature generally involve heads of state or foreign ministers. Except with respect to these positions, the Department will not typically consider employment in a policy-level position to lead to loss of nationality if the individual says that he or she did not intend to lose their U.S. nationality and if the individual's actions were consistent with the retention of U.S. nationality. Actions consistent with the retention of U.S. nationality include, but are not limited to, travel on a U.S. passport, voting in U.S. elections, payment of U.S. taxes, maintenance of a residence in the United States, etc.. In any event each policy-level position case is fully evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

An individual filling a non-policy level position will lose his/her U.S. nationality if he or she indicates an intent to relinquish U.S. nationality and if his/her behavior subsequent to accepting or performing the governmental duties is consistent with an intention to relinquish U.S. nationality. Examples of behavior inconsistent with the retention of U.S. nationality are use of a foreign passport, non-payment of U.S. taxes, failing to vote in U.S. elections, not maintaining a residence in the United States, etc. **For further information about possible loss of U.S. nationality and seeking public office in a foreign state, please contact:**

## **Express Mail**

Director

Office of Legal Affairs (CA/OCS/L)

Bureau of Consular Affairs

U.S. Department of State

600 19<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. -10<sup>th</sup> Floor

Washington, D.C. 20431  
Fax: 202-485-8033

**Regular Mail**

Director  
CA/OCS/L  
Washington, D.C. 20522-1710

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# Renunciation of U.S. Nationality

## ***A. THE IMMIGRATION & NATIONALITY ACT***

Section 349(a)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) ([8 U.S.C. 1481\(a\)\(5\)](#)) is the section of law governing the right of a United States citizen to renounce his or her U.S. citizenship. That section of law provides for the loss of nationality by voluntarily

*"(5) making a formal renunciation of nationality before a diplomatic or consular officer of the United States in a foreign state , in such form as may be prescribed by the Secretary of State" (emphasis added).*

## ***B. ELEMENTS OF RENUNCIATION***

**A person wishing to renounce his or her U.S. citizenship must voluntarily and with intent to relinquish U.S. citizenship:**

1. appear in person before a U.S. consular or diplomatic officer,
2. in a foreign country (normally at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate); and
3. sign an oath of renunciation

Renunciations that do not meet the conditions described above have no legal effect. Because of the provisions of Section 349(a)(5), U.S. citizens cannot effectively renounce their citizenship by mail, through an agent, or while in the United States. In fact, U.S. courts have held certain attempts to renounce U.S. citizenship to be ineffective on a variety of grounds, as discussed below.

## ***C. REQUIREMENT - RENOUNCE ALL RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES***

a person seeking to renounce U.S. citizenship must renounce all the rights and privileges associated with such citizenships. In the case of *Colon v. U.S. Department of State*, 2 F.Supp.2d 43 (1998), the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia rejected Colon's petition for a writ of mandamus directing the Secretary of State to approve a Certificate of Loss of Nationality in the case because he wanted to retain the right to live in the United States while claiming he was not a U.S. citizen.

## ***D. DUAL NATIONALITY / STATELESSNESS***

Persons intending to renounce U.S. citizenship should be aware that, unless they already possess a foreign nationality, they may be rendered stateless and, thus, lack the protection of any government. They may also have difficulty traveling as they may not be entitled to a passport from any country. Even if not stateless, former U.S. citizens would still be required to obtain a visa to travel to the United States, or show that they are eligible for admission pursuant to the terms of the Visa Waiver Pilot Program (VWPP). Renunciation of U.S. citizenship may not prevent a foreign country from deporting that individual to the United States in some non-citizen status.

## ***E. TAX & MILITARY OBLIGATIONS /NO ESCAPE FROM PROSECUTION***

Persons who wish to renounce U.S. citizenship should be aware of the fact that renunciation of U.S. citizenship may have no effect whatsoever on his or her U.S. tax or military service obligations (contact the Internal Revenue Service or U.S. Selective Service for more information). In addition, the act of renouncing U.S. citizenship does not allow persons to avoid possible prosecution for crimes which they may have committed in the United States, or escape the repayment of financial obligations previously incurred in the United States or incurred as United States citizens abroad.

## ***F. RENUNCIATION FOR MINOR CHILDREN/INCOMPETENTS***

Citizenship is a status that is personal to the U.S. citizen. Therefore parents may not renounce the citizenship of their minor children. Similarly, parents/legal guardians may not renounce the citizenship of individuals who are mentally incompetent. Minors seeking to renounce their U.S. citizenship must demonstrate to a consular officer that they are acting voluntarily and that they fully understand the implications/consequences attendant to the renunciation of U.S. citizenship.

## ***G. IRREVOCABILITY OF RENUNCIATION***

Finally, those contemplating a renunciation of U.S. citizenship should understand that the act is irrevocable, except as provided in section 351 of the INA ([8 U.S.C. 1483](#)), and cannot be canceled or set aside absent successful administrative or judicial appeal. (Section 351(b) of the INA provides that an applicant who renounced his or her U.S. citizenship before the age of eighteen can have that citizenship reinstated if he or she makes that desire known to the Department of State within six months after attaining the age of eighteen. See also Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, section 50.20).

Renunciation is the most unequivocal way in which a person can manifest an intention to relinquish U.S. citizenship. Please consider the effects of renouncing U.S. citizenship, described above, before taking this serious and irrevocable action. If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact:

### **Regular Mail**

U.S. Department of State  
CA/OCS/L  
SA-17, 10th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20522-1710

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<http://settlement.org/ontario/immigration-citizenship/canadian-government/voting/a-guide-to-voting-in-the-canadian-federal-election/>

# **A Guide to Voting in the Canadian Federal Election**

If you are a Canadian citizen you have the chance to choose who represents you in federal politics. During a federal election, your vote helps choose the prime minister.

## **In This Article**

- [Who can vote?](#)
- [How do I add my name to the Voter's List?](#)
- [Who am I voting for?](#)
- [What does the ballot look like?](#)
- [For More Information](#)

## Who can vote?

To vote in a Canadian federal election you must be:

- A Canadian citizen (Temporary and permanent residents **cannot** vote);
- 18 years old or older on election day;
- Residents in the electoral district; and
- Registered on the Voters List (also called the list of electors).

If you meet the first 3 requirements, but are not on the **Voters List**, you must [add your name to the list](#).

## How do I add my name to the Voter's List?

The Voters List is a list of people who are registered and eligible to vote in the federal election. The Voters List can have mistakes from old information and often, names are missing from this list. If you are not on the Voters List, you can [add your name](#) on or before election day.

## How do I know if I am on the Voters List?

When the election is announced, Elections Canada creates lists of voters using information from the National Register of Electors.

The National Register of Electors is a database of Canadians who are qualified to vote. A few weeks before the election, Elections Canada will send you a **Voter Information Card** if your name is on the voters lists. The card will tell you that you are registered, and where and when to vote. It also has information about the date and location of advance polls.

Take this card with you when you go to vote.

If your name or address on the card is incorrect, you can contact your local returning officer in person or by telephone, fax or mail to correct it. In most cases, the returning officer will ask you for additional information as proof of identity. You can also register or make corrections on election day at your [polling station](#).

## How do I vote if I do not get a Voter Information Card?

If you are not on the National Register of Electors and did not receive a Voter Information Card, and you want to add your name to the list before election day, you must ask your [local returning officer](#) for a registration form in person, or by telephone, fax or mail.

If your name is not listed in the National Register of Electors on election day, you must show [proof of identity and residence](#):

- A copy of 1 document that shows your name, address and signature (such as a driver's licence); or
- Copies of 2 identity documents: 1 with your name and address, 1 with at least your name (such as your health card and hydro bill).

Your voter notification card **cannot** be used as identification. See [examples of acceptable identification](#).

If you do not have acceptable identification, you must [swear an oath](#) before you can get a ballot.