

<http://www.embassyofireland.org/home/index.aspx?id=75876>

Information on Obtaining AN IRISH VISA, IRISH CITIZENSHIP, OR AN IRISH PASSPORT!

What are the benefits of Irish Citizenship?

Having an Irish Passport allows ease of travel throughout the EU without long waits at immigration.

You can also work anywhere in the EU without a work permit.

Citizenship will also permit you to obtain emergency medical care in Ireland.

You can purchase real estate in Ireland or in any EU member country.

As an Irish citizen, any children born to you **after that date** will also be eligible for Irish citizenship.

Other benefits, include voting, Social Service, and discounted college tuition, with certain restrictions.

Visa Requirements for travel to Ireland

If you are a citizen of the United States, Canada, Mexico, or the European Union you do not require a visa to visit Ireland.

Visa Requirements for extended stays to Ireland

If you are planning on staying in Ireland for longer than 90 days, or if you are interested in working and/or living in Ireland, you may need to contact your local Irish Embassy.

Visa Requirements for working or living in Ireland

Contact the Irish Embassy's for further information.

IRISH CITIZENSHIP OR AN IRISH PASSPORT

To obtain a Passport, you must first be an Irish citizen.

If you are Irish-born or have an Irish-born parent, you are automatically considered an Irish citizen.

If you were born outside Ireland, you need to register as a **Foreign Born Citizen**.

You are also eligible to apply for Irish citizenship, if you have a grandparent and, in a few instances, a great-grandparent who is or was an Irish-born citizen.

You are also eligible if you have been married for three years to a person who has been an Irish citizen for three years (although since 2006 you are required to live for some time in Ireland).

If you are a child of a naturalized Irish citizen you are eligible, **provided you were born after your parent was naturalized**

NOTE:

Obtaining your Irish citizenship can require some work.

How do I apply?

You can also get an application form directly from the **Irish Embassy**.

Will it affect my U.S. citizenship if I become an Irish citizen?

No. The U.S. government recognizes dual citizenship.

You must, however, use your U.S. passport when departing or entering the U.S. According to the U.S. Department of State, if you get in difficulty in the EU, the U.S. government will still provide assistance, unless prevented from such by the host country.

What documents do I need?

If you are applying as the grandchild of an Irish-born citizen, you will need to provide one original and one copy of:

Birth certificates

(called the long form, not the short form) for yourself; the parent you are claiming citizenship through; and your Irish-born grandparent.

In some cases baptismal certificates can be accepted if the birth certificate is unavailable.

Marriage certificates

for you (if applicable), your parent, and your grandparent.

Death certificates

if your parent or grandparent has died.

Depending on the situation, other documents may also be requested.

Naturalization certificate

If you are applying as the child of a naturalized citizen (provided you were born after your parent became an Irish citizen) you will need to provide one original and one copy of our parent's Irish naturalization certificate.

Birth certificates for you and your naturalized parent.

Marriage certificate for your parent and yourself, if applicable.

Death certificate of your parent, if deceased.

Passport:

All applicants also will need to provide a photocopy of their passport

And three additional proofs of identity

Photocopies of additional proofs of identity, such as a **driver's license, pay slip, or employment ID card.**

Passport Photos:

You also need to provide two identical passport-sized photos

check with the Irish Embassy for details.

Collecting the required documents

You need to know where your grandparent and/or parent were born and married and/or died: then you contact the keeper of vital records in those areas and request what you need.

You also need to get your birth certificate (and marriage certificate, if married). The Irish Embassy can give you the names of the vital records agencies in individual counties in Ireland.

Ireland's General Register Office can provide records of Births, Deaths and Marriages in the Republic of Ireland provided sufficient information is furnished. The Office has records of marriages other than Roman Catholic marriages dating to 1845, and records of Births, Deaths and Roman Catholic Marriages dating to 1864. **Places and dates are critical for securing the proper documents.**

[Click here to apply for an Irish Birth Certificate, Death Certificate, or Marriage Certificate for yourself, a parent, grandparent or other Irish ancestor. The application forms specify the basic detail of information that is required.](#)

In the U.S., records are kept by states

Except in Massachusetts where they are kept by cities and towns)

The Office of Vital Records (Hartford, Conn., and the boroughs of New York City have their own offices).

Marriage certificates also are available from churches.

How much will this cost?

Fees for copies vary from state to state and town to town.

The 10 year Irish passport costs about \$120.00, Seniors over 65 are free.

Final Note;

This whole process can take anything from a couple of months (if you have all the proper documentation) to a year or two if you have difficulties obtaining all that is required. The Irish Embassy is there to help. Contact your local Embassy for further assistance.