



"Nasc" is the Irish word for **"Link"**

Nasc, the Irish Immigrant Support Centre is a non-Governmental organization that seeks to respond to the needs of immigrants in the area of Cork, Ireland.

Our Vision: To contribute to an environment of social inclusion for all communities, based on the principles of equality, social justice and human rights.

Mission: Nasc is a source of support and self-development for migrants, individually and collectively, and uses its experiences to promote fair, consistent and transparent policies.

There are three parts to our work:

- One to one Advice & Advocacy
- Group capacity building
- Policy & Campaigning

This information leaflet was produced by Nasc and funded by Citizens Information Board.



Disclaimer: The contents of this leaflet are intended for informational purposes only and should not be relied upon as a substitute for legal advice. Nasc does not accept liability for the use or misuse of the information contained in this leaflet. Thank you for your co-operation.

Who Qualifies for Citizenship?

1. Citizenship based on residency:

You may apply for citizenship based on residency if you are over 18 years of age and if you fulfil the residency requirements.

Residency requirements: You must have residency permission in the state for 5 years out of the last 8 years. The last 12 months of residency prior to the application must be continuous. Continuous residency means you must not have left the State for a period longer than one month prior to your application and you must not have a gap period in your GNIB residency stamps.

Reckonable residency includes residency stamps placed on the basis of a Stamp 1, 3 or 4. Stamp 2 (student) residency is not counted as being reckonable for an application for citizenship.

The granting of citizenship is not a right and is the absolute discretion of the Minister for Justice. In making his decision the Minister will consider the conduct and character of the applicant and their intention to reside in Ireland.

Application Process:

You must fully complete the Form 8 citizenship application form if you wish to apply for citizenship based on residency.

Documents requires for applications based on residency include:

- (a) Certified copy of Birth Certificate (with certified translation if applicable)
- (b) Certified copy of Marriage Certificate (with certified translation if applicable)
- (c) Certified copy of Divorce Papers (if applicable)
- (d) Copy GNIB card
- (e) Letters from current and previous employers outlining employment history in the State
- (f) Copy Tax documents, P60s, P45s, P21s where applicable
- (g) Copy Payslips for previous three months
- (h) Copy Bank Statements for previous three months
- (i) Copy passports with requisite stamps as proof of 5 years reckonable residency with one year continuous residency

2. Citizenship based on residency for refugees:

If you have been recognised as a refugee you may apply for citizenship after 3 years residency. Your reckonable residency is counted from your time of entry rather than the date of recognition.

You must also complete a Form 8 application form and include the documents listed (a) to (h) above with a copy of your Ministerial Decisions Letter granting you refugee status.

3. Citizenship based on marriage to an Irish citizen:

If you are married to an Irish citizen you may apply for citizenship after you have acquired 3 years reckonable residency in the State and that the last 12 months is continuous.

You must fully complete the Form 8 and include the documents listed (a) to (h). You must also include:

- Copy of proof that your spouse is an Irish citizen. Either an Irish Birth Certificate or a naturalisation certificate for your spouse.
- Copy of proof of residence as proof of address being utility bills, bank statements, revenue documents as proof that you live as a couple in the same household.
- Copy of passport showing residency stamps for the requisite 3 years with 1 year continuous residency

4. Citizenship based on association:

You may apply for residency based on association if you are related by blood, affinity or adoption to an Irish citizen.

You must have three years reckonable residency prior to application. You must complete the Form 8, include the documents listed (a) to (h) with proof of residency for 3 years and proof of association with the Irish citizen.

Form 9: Application by a naturalised parent for citizenship for a minor:

If you are a naturalised citizen you may apply for citizenship for your minor children if your children have been resident in the State for at least three years prior to the application and are under 18 years.

You must fully complete a Form 9 application form and include the following documents:

- (1).Certified copy of the minor's birth certificate with a certified translation if applicable.
- (2).Copy of your certificate of naturalisation.
- (3).Letters from your child's school confirming attendance since arrival in the State. Or if they have not been in school for three years a letter confirming receipt of child benefit on their behalf or a letter from your GP. Confirming your child attended their surgery.

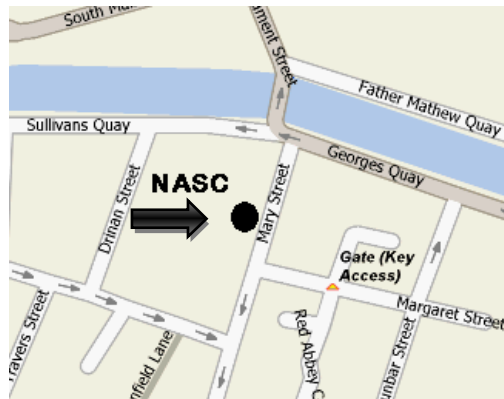
Form 10: Application by a parent or guardian for citizenship for a minor based on Irish descent or associations:

If you wish to apply for citizenship for a minor based on Irish association or descent you must fill in Form and include documents listed (1) and (3) above plus documentary proof of the Irish association or blood affinity.

For further information please visit www.inis.gov.ie and click on citizenship.

All applications should be sent to:

**Citizenship Applications
Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform,
Dundrum Road,
Tipperary Town.
Co.Tipperary**



CONTACT US:

Nasc

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You can visit or phone our drop-in service at the following times:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

10.00 am to 1:00 pm

2:00 pm to 4.30 pm