

ABOLITION OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION  
SERVICE AND TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For abolition of Immigration and Naturalization Service, transfer of functions, and treatment of related references, see note set out under section 1551 of this title.

**§ 1452. Certificates of citizenship or U.S. non-citizen national status; procedure**

**(a) Application to Attorney General for certificate of citizenship; proof; oath of allegiance**

A person who claims to have derived United States citizenship through the naturalization of a parent or through the naturalization or citizenship of a husband, or who is a citizen of the United States by virtue of the provisions of section 1993 of the United States Revised Statutes, or of section 1993 of the United States Revised Statutes, as amended by section 1 of the Act of May 24, 1934 (48 Stat. 797), or who is a citizen of the United States by virtue of the provisions of subsection (c), (d), (e), (g), or (i) of section 201 of the Nationality Act of 1940, as amended (54 Stat. 1138), or of the Act of May 7, 1934 (48 Stat. 667), or of paragraph (c), (d), (e), or (g) of section 1401 of this title, or under the provisions of the Act of August 4, 1937 (50 Stat. 558), or under the provisions of section 203 or 205 of the Nationality Act of 1940 (54 Stat. 1139), or under the provisions of section 1403 of this title, may apply to the Attorney General for a certificate of citizenship. Upon proof to the satisfaction of the Attorney General that the applicant is a citizen, and that the applicant's alleged citizenship was derived as claimed, or acquired, as the case may be, and upon taking and subscribing before a member of the Service within the United States to the oath of allegiance required by this chapter of an applicant for naturalization, such individual shall be furnished by the Attorney General with a certificate of citizenship, but only if such individual is at the time within the United States.

**(b) Application to Secretary of State for certificate of non-citizen national status; proof; oath of allegiance**

A person who claims to be a national, but not a citizen, of the United States may apply to the Secretary of State for a certificate of non-citizen national status. Upon—

(1) proof to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State that the applicant is a national, but not a citizen, of the United States, and

(2) in the case of such a person born outside of the United States or its outlying possessions, taking and subscribing, before an immigration officer within the United States or its outlying possessions, to the oath of allegiance required by this chapter of a petitioner for naturalization,

the individual shall be furnished by the Secretary of State with a certificate of non-citizen national status, but only if the individual is at the time within the United States or its outlying possessions.

(June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title III, ch. 2, § 341, 66 Stat. 263; Pub. L. 97-116, § 18(p), Dec. 29, 1981, 95 Stat. 1621; Pub. L. 99-396, § 16(a), Aug. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 843; Pub. L. 99-653, § 22, Nov. 14, 1986, 100

Stat. 3658; Pub. L. 100-525, § 8(q), Oct. 24, 1988, 102 Stat. 2618; Pub. L. 102-232, title III, § 305(m)(8), Dec. 12, 1991, 105 Stat. 1750; Pub. L. 103-416, title I, § 102(b), Oct. 25, 1994, 108 Stat. 4307.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 1993 of the Revised Statutes, referred to in subsec. (a), which was classified to section 6 of this title, was repealed by act Oct. 14, 1940, ch. 876, title I, subch. V, § 504, 54 Stat. 1172.

The Nationality Act of 1940, referred to in subsec. (a), is act Oct. 14, 1940, ch. 876, 54 Stat. 1137, as amended. Sections 201, 203, and 205 of the Nationality Act of 1940, which were classified to sections 601, 603, and 605, respectively, of this title, were repealed by section 403(a)(42) of act June 27, 1952.

Act May 7, 1934 (48 Stat. 667), referred to in subsec. (a), which was classified to sections 3b and 3c of this title, was omitted from the Code.

Act Aug. 4, 1937, referred to in subsec. (a), which was classified to sections 5d and 5e of this title, was repealed by act Oct. 14, 1940, ch. 876, title I, subch. V, § 504, 54 Stat. 1172.

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (b)(2), was in the original, "this Act", meaning act June 27, 1952, ch. 477, 66 Stat. 163, known as the Immigration and Nationality Act, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1101 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 103-416 struck out subsec. (c) which related to application to Attorney General for certificate of citizenship for adopted child.

1991—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-232 substituted "an applicant" for "a petitioner".

1988—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 100-525 amended Pub. L. 99-653. See 1986 Amendment note below.

1986—Pub. L. 99-396, § 16(a)(1), inserted reference to certificates of non-citizen national status in section catchline.

Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 99-396, § 16(a)(2), (3), designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 99-653, as amended by Pub. L. 100-525, added subsec. (c).

1981—Pub. L. 97-116 substituted "(c), (d), (e), or (g) of section 1401" for "(3), (4), (5), or (7) of section 1401(a)".

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-416 effective on the first day of the first month beginning more than 120 days after Oct. 25, 1994, see section 102(d) of Pub. L. 103-416, set out as a note under section 1433 of this act.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1991 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 102-232, title III, § 305(m), Dec. 12, 1991, 105 Stat. 1750, provided that the amendment made by section 305(m) is effective as if included in section 407(d) of the Immigration Act of 1990, Pub. L. 101-649.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-525 effective as if included in the enactment of the Immigration and Nationality Act Amendments of 1986, Pub. L. 99-653, see section 309(b)(15) of Pub. L. 102-232, set out as an Effective and Termination Dates of 1988 Amendments note under section 1101 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-116 effective Dec. 29, 1981, see section 21(a) of Pub. L. 97-116, set out as a note under section 1101 of this title.

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CERTIFICATES OF NON-CITIZEN NATIONAL STATUS; \$35  
LIMIT ON FEES FOR PROCESSING APPLICATIONS FILED  
BEFORE END OF FISCAL YEAR 1987

Pub. L. 99-396, §16(c), Aug. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 843, provided that: "The Secretary of State may not impose a fee exceeding \$35 for the processing of an application for a certificate of non-citizen national status under section 341(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act [8 U.S.C. 1452(b)] filed before the end of fiscal year 1987."

**§ 1453. Cancellation of certificates issued by Attorney General, the Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner; action not to affect citizenship status**

The Attorney General is authorized to cancel any certificate of citizenship, certificate of naturalization, copy of a declaration of intention, or other certificate, document or record heretofore issued or made by the Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner or hereafter made by the Attorney General if it shall appear to the Attorney General's satisfaction that such document or record was illegally or fraudulently obtained from, or was created through illegality or by fraud practiced upon, him or the Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner; but the person for or to whom such document or record has been issued or made shall be given at such person's last-known place of address written notice of the intention to cancel such document or record with the reasons therefor and shall be given at least sixty days in which to show cause why such document or record should not be canceled. The cancellation under this section of any document purporting to show the citizenship status of the person to whom it was issued shall affect only the document and not the citizenship status of the person in whose name the document was issued.

(June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title III, ch. 2, §342, 66 Stat. 263.)

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective 180 days after June 27, 1952, see section 407 of act June 27, 1952, set out as a note under section 1101 of this title.

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**§ 1454. Documents and copies issued by Attorney General**

(a) If any certificate of naturalization or citizenship issued to any citizen or any declaration of intention furnished to any declarant is lost, mutilated, or destroyed, the citizen or declarant may make application to the Attorney General for a new certificate or declaration. If the Attor-

ney General finds that the certificate or declaration is lost, mutilated, or destroyed, he shall issue to the applicant a new certificate or declaration. If the certificate or declaration has been mutilated, it shall be surrendered to the Attorney General before the applicant may receive such new certificate or declaration. If the certificate or declaration has been lost, the applicant or any other person who shall have, or may come into possession of it is required to surrender it to the Attorney General.

(b) The Attorney General shall issue for any naturalized citizen, on such citizen's application therefor, a special certificate of naturalization for use by such citizen only for the purpose of obtaining recognition as a citizen of the United States by a foreign state. Such certificate when issued shall be furnished to the Secretary of State for transmission to the proper authority in such foreign state.

(c) If the name of any naturalized citizen has, subsequent to naturalization, been changed by order of any court of competent jurisdiction, or by marriage, the citizen may make application for a new certificate of naturalization in the new name of such citizen. If the Attorney General finds the name of the applicant to have been changed as claimed, the Attorney General shall issue to the applicant a new certificate and shall notify the naturalization court of such action.

(d) The Attorney General is authorized to make and issue certifications of any part of the naturalization records of any court, or of any certificate of naturalization or citizenship, for use in complying with any statute, State or Federal, or in any judicial proceeding. No such certification shall be made by any clerk of court except upon order of the court.

(June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title III, ch. 2, §343, 66 Stat. 263; Pub. L. 100-525, §9(ee), Oct. 24, 1988, 102 Stat. 2621.)

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

1988—Pub. L. 100-525 redesignated subsecs. (b) to (e) as (a) to (d), respectively, and struck out former subsec. (a) which read as follows: "A person who claims to have been naturalized in the United States under section 323 of the Nationality Act of 1940 may make application to the Attorney General for a certificate of naturalization. Upon proof to the satisfaction of the Attorney General that the applicant is a citizen and that he has been naturalized as claimed in the application, such individual shall be furnished a certificate of naturalization by the Attorney General, but only if the applicant is at the time within the United States."

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

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**§ 1455. Fiscal provisions**

(a) The Attorney General shall charge, collect, and account for fees prescribed by the Attorney General pursuant to section 9701 of title 31 for the following: