

# Important Information for New Citizens



## Congratulations on becoming a U.S. citizen



Today marks a very special milestone in your life. With a solemn oath, you are now a citizen of the United States of America. You pursued this day wholeheartedly and pledged your allegiance to this country; now we welcome you to the American family.

We encourage you to read *The Citizen's Almanac*, available at [uscis.gov](https://uscis.gov), which contains information on the history, people and events that have shaped our country. We hope the contents of this booklet will serve as a constant reminder of the important rights and responsibilities you now have as a U.S. citizen.

Your aspirations and actions enrich our society and strengthen our democracy. Remember that with the rights of citizenship come equally important responsibilities. Our system of government relies on an active and engaged citizenry. The future of our great republic is dependent upon the involvement of citizens like you.

With your new title of U.S. citizen, you have an opportunity to make lasting contributions to both your community and adopted country. Your efforts will help ensure that America's promise of freedom, democracy, and liberty is secured for generations to come.

Below is a list of some of the most important rights and responsibilities that all citizens—both Americans by birth and by choice—should exercise, honor, and respect. Some of these responsibilities are legally required of every citizen, but all are important to ensure the continued vitality of our country and democracy. Please accept our warmest welcome and best wishes for the future.

### Protecting Your Right to Work

Federal law states that employers cannot discriminate against you because of your citizenship or immigration status or national origin. Employers cannot treat you differently because of your citizenship or because of your place of birth, native language, accent, or appearance. Visit [justice.gov/crt/immigrant-and-employee-rights-section](https://justice.gov/crt/immigrant-and-employee-rights-section) for more information.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT**  
[uscis.gov/citizenship-resource-center/  
new-us-citizens](https://uscis.gov/citizenship-resource-center/new-us-citizens)

### Now that you are a U.S. Citizen, you can...

#### • Apply for a U.S. Passport

Now that you are a U.S. citizen, you can apply for a U.S. passport from the U.S. Department of State. You may also apply for a U.S. passport for any child under the age of 18 who automatically acquired citizenship based on your naturalization. Please visit [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov).

#### • Register to Vote

As a new U.S. citizen, you may register to vote. You can register to vote by applying in person, by mail, at public assistance offices, or when you apply for or renew your driver's license. Visit the U.S. Election Assistance Commission's website at [vote.gov](https://vote.gov) for more information.

#### • Update Your Social Security Record

If you provided consent, USCIS can automatically transmit your information to the Social Security Administration (SSA) so they can update your status to that of a U.S. citizen in their systems. SSA may contact you if there are any questions. It may take up to 10 days after the naturalization ceremony before the USCIS systems are able to be updated and transmit to SSA. If you did not provide consent with your naturalization application, you will need to contact SSA to update your records. You can visit [ssa.gov](https://ssa.gov) for more information.

#### • Obtain a Certificate of Citizenship for Your Child

If you have a child who is a lawful permanent resident under the age of 18 on the day you naturalize, he or she may have automatically acquired U.S. citizenship. For additional information, see "I am the Child of a U.S. Citizen" at [uscis.gov/citizenship/learn-about-citizenship/i-am-the-child-of-a-us-citizen](https://uscis.gov/citizenship/learn-about-citizenship/i-am-the-child-of-a-us-citizen)

#### • Sponsor Family Members to Come to the United States

As a citizen of the United States, you may petition for certain relatives to become lawful permanent residents and obtain what is often referred to as a "Green Card." For more information, see "Family of U.S. Citizens" at [uscis.gov/family/family-of-us-citizens](https://uscis.gov/family/family-of-us-citizens).



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**