

RECOGNITION OF ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP "JURE SANGUINIS"

Descendants of Italian citizens who wish to have their Italian citizenship recognized.

Costs of Italian citizenship application

Starting July 8th, 2014, applicants for Italian citizenship by descent shall pay – with a money order made to the Italian Consulate General of Boston – when submitting their application.

(The fees are published on the citizenship main page)

This fee is not refundable, regardless of the outcome of the application. The fee shall apply to descendants over 18 (children, grand-children, etc.) of Italian citizens, as well as to female spouses of Italian citizens who got married before April 27th, 1983, who wish to obtain the recognition of the Italian citizenship.

The Consulate does not provide translation for any documents. For a list of translators please click here. If a translator is used, his/her signature must be notarized along with associated Apostille

Please read this section carefully

- All documents must be submitted in person by applicants on the day of the appointment
- **The citizenship office cannot check documentation in advance**
- Even if relatives of yours have submitted **common ancestors'** documentation at another Italian Consulate prior to your application, you must resubmit all original documents (with the appropriate legalizations from other consulates etc.) At this office on the day of the appointment
- Documents issued in countries other than the U.S. must comply with the local regulations on the legalization of documents and they must be translated into Italian. Such documents and their translations must be submitted to the Italian Consulate/Embassy in the country where the documents were issued prior to being brought to this Consulate (Visit the website of the Italian Consulate competent for territory). A list of all the Italian Embassies and Consulates can be found at www.esteri.it
- All certificates must be in **original or "certified copy" a.k.a. "long form" or "full form" or "book copy"** ("certifications" or "abstracts" will not be accepted). Such forms can be obtained from the Vital Records Office of the State in which the birth/marriage/death took place. Certificates reporting only the "Country/County" of birth cannot be accepted. You must request the Office of Vital Records to indicate in the certificate the city of birth.

- Apostille: U.S. birth/marriage/death records related to the Italian side must bear the Apostille of the Secretary of State of the State where the document was issued (the certificate of naturalization does not require the Apostille). **Secretary of State Offices**

The "APOSTILLE" is an international legalization. It is not a stamp on the certificate. It is a physical separate document stapled to the birth/marriage/death certificate.

Please note that the "Apostille" does not require translation.

To request the apostille please check on internet:"apostille", adding the name of the state where the document was issued. For MA, RI, NH, VT and ME please consult **Secretary of State Offices**

Additional requirements for all categories

- Certificates relating to the applicant's family (his or her birth certificate, marriage certificate, birth certificates of minor children) in languages other than Italian must be translated into Italian. [Click here to see a list of professional translators.](#)
- Documents that do not need to be translated and do not need an Apostille are: U.S. Certificates of Naturalization and the letter of no records issued by Immigration and Naturalization Services

Discrepancies

Double-check all documents word by word to make sure that there are no discrepancies or mismatches in names, last names, dates and places of birth. If there are major discrepancies in such fields, you must have those certificates amended through an official "affidavit to amend a record", to be obtained from the Vital Records Office that issued the document or through a competent Court Order.

If you are concerned that any of the above procedures may affect your United States citizenship, you should contact the U.S. authorities.

Please note: ancestors born in Italy who naturalized before June 14, 1912 lost their Italian citizenship and so did their minor children (21 years at the time) including those born in the U.S.

Jure Sanguinis - Who is entitled

If you **were born in the United States or a Country other than Italy** you can be recognized an Italian citizen if any one of the categories listed below applies to you:

- **Category 1 - You father was born in Italy and was an Italian citizen at the time of your birth** (had not become American/other Foreign Country citizen yet) and you never renounced your Italian citizenship.
- **Category 2 - Your mother was born in Italy and was an Italian citizen** at the time of your birth (had not become American/other Foreign Country citizen yet), you were born after January 1, 1948 (Italian women could not transmit the citizenship to their children prior to such date), and you never renounced your Italian citizenship.
- **Category 3 - Your paternal grandfather was born in Italy, your father was born in the united states or a country other than Italy**, and your paternal grandfather was still an Italian citizen at the time of his birth (had not become American/Foreign Country citizen yet) , neither you nor your father ever renounced your Italian citizenship.
- **Category 4 - Your maternal grandfather was born in Italy, your mother was born in the united states or a country other than Italy**, and your maternal grandfather was still an Italian citizen at the time of her birth (had not become American/other Foreign Country citizen yet), you were born after January 1, 1948 (Italian women could not transmit the citizenship to their children prior to such date), and neither you nor your mother ever renounced your Italian citizenship.
- **Category 5 - Your paternal or maternal great grandfather was born in Italy, your paternal or maternal grandfather was born in the united states or a country other than Italy**, and your paternal or maternal great grandfather was an Italian citizen at the time of his son's birth (had not become American/Foreign Country citizen yet), neither you nor your father or mother, or your grandfather ever renounced your/their Italian citizenship. A grandmother born before 1/1/1948 can claim Italian citizenship only from her father and can transfer it only to children born after 1/1/48.

Please note: there are specific cases which may not be dealt with in the above-mentioned categories. They shall be evaluated on the day of the appointment.

Eligible Categories' Required Documentation

Category 1

- **Your father's birth certificate and apostille** - If you don't have it yet, write to the Italian "Comune" where your father was born, request a birth certificate in "*formato internazionale*", or in "*estratto per riassunto*" (showing his father's and mother's names) in original. You can easily find the address of the "Comune" on Internet.

When writing to the "Comune", address your request to:

COMUNE di (name of town)

Ufficio Anagrafe - Stato Civile

(Zip code) (City) – Italy

- **Your parents' marriage certificate and apostille** - If the marriage took place in Italy you have to request the document from the "Comune" where the marriage took place please follow the above-mentioned procedure. If it took place in the United States, you must obtain a "certified copy" of the certificate and an "Apostille" from the Secretary of State of the State in which it was issued. ("Apostille" information follows) If it took place outside the US, please see below (*)
- **Your mother's birth certificate and apostille (if applicable)** - If she was born in Italy, see above, or, if she was born in the U.S., request a "certified copy" of a "long form" or a "full form"; if she was born in another Country please see below (*)
- **Your father's certificate of naturalization** - or Italian passport and Alien Registration Card ("green card")

If your father became a U.S. citizen but his Certificate of Naturalization is not available, you must provide:

- Certified copy of the "declaration of intention" / "petition for naturalization" issued by the National Archives (www.archive.gov)
- Naturalization certification

In case your father never naturalized US citizen, please provide:

- Original certificate of nonexistence of records issued by the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (www.uscis.gov)
- Certified copy of the census first available immediately after the birth in the US of the direct descent (www.census.org)

- **Your father's death certificate** - (if applicable) in "certified copy" with "apostille". *If your father became a U.S. citizen by naturalization before your birth, you might not be entitled to Italian citizenship (unless you fit into another category).*
- **Your mother's birth certificate, apostilled** - if she was born in Italy see above, or, if she was born in the US, request a "certified copy" of a "long form" or a "full form": if she was born in another country see below (*).
- **Your birth certificate** - You must obtain a "certified copy" (in "full form" or "long form"), with the "apostille" from the Secretary of State of the State in which it was issued. The document must be translated into Italian.

(*) All documents from outside the USA must follow legalizations and translations procedures required by the Italian consulate in each foreign country. They must be apostilled (if applicable in such country, if not please have the original document legalized by the local ministry of foreign affairs). All documents must be translated into Italian and the translation must be either stamped at the competent Italian consulate in such country or apostilled as well.

Category 2

All documents are equivalent to those in **Category 1**; in this case the Italian line to follow will be your mother's.

Category 3

- Your paternal grandfather's birth certificate
- Your grandparents' marriage certificate and apostille (if the marriage did not take place in Italy)
- Your grandfather's certificate of naturalization (**see Category 1**)
- Your grandmother's birth certificate and apostille
- Your father's birth certificate and apostille
- Your mother's birth certificate and apostille
- Your parents' marriage certificate and apostille
- Death certificate of all the deceased ancestors and apostille
- Your birth certificate, apostille and translation in Italian

Please note: If your grandfather became a U.S. citizen by naturalization before your father's birth, you might not be entitled to Italian citizenship (unless you fit into another category)

Category 4

All documents are equivalent to those in **Category 3**; in this case the Italian line to follow will be your mother's.

Category 5

- Your paternal/maternal great-grandfather birth certificate
- Your paternal/maternal great-grandmother's birth certificate and apostille
- Your paternal/maternal great-grandparents' marriage certificate and apostille (if the marriage did not take place in Italy)
- Your paternal/maternal great-grandfather's certificate of naturalization (**see Category 1**)
- Your paternal/maternal grandfather's birth certificate and apostille
- Your paternal/maternal grandmother's birth certificate and apostille
- Your paternal/maternal grandparents' marriage certificate and apostille
- Your mother's birth certificate and apostille
- Your father's birth certificate and apostille
- Your parents' marriage certificate and apostille
- Your birth certificate and apostille
- Any pertinent death certificate/s related to the Italian ascendants. *If your great-grandfather became a U.S. citizen by naturalization before your grandfather/grandmother's birth or before July 1912, you might not be entitled to Italian citizenship (unless you fit into another category)*

Please be advised that documents will not be accepted if there are inconsistencies in either the names of the dates.

Please be aware that even if a single document is missing, incomplete, unreadable, inconsistent or not original, your request will not be processed and you will need to ask for another appointment.