

U.S. PASSPORTS & INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

U.S. Department of State • Bureau of Consular Affairs



Tips for Submitting Evidence of U.S. Citizenship

You must submit evidence of U.S. citizenship when applying for a U.S. passport. The documents will be returned to you with your new passport or mailed separately.

I was born in the United States.

You should submit a certified copy of your state, city, or county birth certificate. It **MUST** include:

- Your full name
- Full name of your parent (s)
- Date of birth
- Place of birth
- Raised, embossed, impressed or multicolored seal of issuing authority
- Registrar's signature
- The date the certificate was filed with the registrar's office (must be within one year of birth)

I am renewing my U.S. passport by mail.

You should send the Department your most recently issued, undamaged U.S. passport. You may *only* renew your U.S. passport if the document was issued when you were age 16 or older, within the last 15 years, and in your current name or you can legally document your name change. Please refer to Form DS-82 on travel.state.gov/passport for more information.

I was born in a foreign country.

You should submit one of three documents. Please refer to travel.state.gov/passport for more information on the CRBA and uscis.gov regarding naturalization and citizenship certificates.

- Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) or Certification of Birth
- Naturalization Certificate
- Certificate of Citizenship

If you cannot present one of the documents listed above, you must submit additional documents as evidence of U.S. citizenship such as early public records. More information is on travel.state.gov/passport under the "Apply for a Passport" tab and then "First Time Applicants."