



Benefits of Citizenship

Completing the N-600 application process will allow you to more easily prove you are already a U.S. citizen. Being a U.S. citizen allows you access to a number of benefits, some of which are listed below.

1. Protection from deportation

As a green card holding lawful permanent resident (LPR), certain criminal convictions could make you deportable. U.S. citizens and their children are protected from deportation, regardless of criminal history or other factors.

2. Family reunification

U.S. citizens can file petitions through the government to reunite with family members. Although LPRs can file petitions only for their spouses, minor children and unmarried adult sons and daughters, U.S. citizens can petition for additional family members such as parents, siblings and married adult sons and daughters.

3. Government job eligibility

Some jobs are available only to U.S. citizens, such as those in the federal government. Naturalized citizens earn between 50 and 70 percent more than noncitizens and have higher employment rates. Citizenship increases access to better job preparation, opportunities, and greater ability to switch jobs.

4. Financial Aid/Educational Opportunities

U.S. Citizens are eligible for Federal Student aid while non-citizens are not. Paying for college can be challenging at times, with these financial grants and scholarships it makes it easier to pursue your goals for college and beyond.

5. Freedom to travel

LPRs' permitted travel time during a given year is restricted. U.S. citizens have the freedom to travel without these limitations. They also have the opportunity to seek the help and protection of U.S. embassies and consulates abroad in the event of a personal crisis or civil unrest.

6. Ability to vote

The right to vote is also a benefit of U.S. citizenship. Only citizens have the opportunity to elect the leaders they feel will best represent themselves, their families and their communities.