



Citizenship Derivation in Adoption

Applicant Born on or after February 27, 1983

Citizenship was derived if **all** of the following are true.

- At least one of the applicant's adoptive parents was a United States citizen before the applicant turned 18 (the "USC Parent")
- Applicant was adopted by the USC Parent prior to age 16
- Applicant lives/lived in the legal custody of and has resided with the USC Parent(s) for at least 2 years while under 18
- Applicant was not married before turning 18
- Applicant is either:
 - a lawful permanent resident; or
 - entered the United States on an IH-4 or IR-4 visa (to be adopted in the United States), and the adoption is final

Applicant Born before February 27, 1983

Citizenship was derived if **all** of the following are true.

- At least one of the applicant's adoptive parents naturalized before the applicant turned 18 (the "USC Parent")
- Applicant was adopted by the USC Parent prior to age 18¹
- Applicant was living in the U.S. in the custody of the USC Parent at the time of their naturalization
- Applicant was not married before turning 18
- Applicant is a lawful permanent resident

Applicant Born before October 5, 1960 cannot derive from adoptive parents

¹ Between 10/5/78 and 12/29/81, adopted children could only derive citizenship if the adoption occurred before the child turned 16.