



## **Travel/Residence**

**Has the applicant had his green card, and lived continuously in the U.S. for, at least 5 years (or 3 years if applying through marriage)?**

- If no, do not schedule until this requirement is met (or at least within a month or two of being met). Note that applicants can apply 90 days before the 5 year anniversary of permanent residence date.

**Has the applicant been living in the state for at least 3 months?**

- If no, the applicant will have to wait to apply for citizenship until s/he has met the requirement.
- Can still schedule, but please make a note and inform the applicant that we cannot submit their application until they have lived in the state for at least 3 months.

**Any trips outside of the U.S. within the past 5 (or 3) years that lasted 1 year or longer?**

- If yes, then the applicant is currently ineligible for citizenship, and must wait 4 (or 2) years and 1 day after the end of any such trip before *possibly* becoming eligible.
- If any part of a 1 year or more trip is within the past 5 years, DO NOT SCHEDULE until Legal approves.

**Any trips outside of the U.S. within the past 5 (or 3) years that lasted 6 months or longer, but shorter than 1 year?**

- If yes, USCIS will presume abandonment of permanent residence in the US, and the applicant must provide evidence that he or she maintained continuous residence in the U.S. during that trip. (e.g., caring for a sick family member).
  - This evidence may include applicant testimony, tax return filings, mortgage/lease documents, U.S. bank accounts, etc.
- DO NOT SCHEDULE until Legal approves the trip.

**Do trips total 912 (or 547) or more days?**

- If yes, then the applicant is currently ineligible for citizenship, and must wait until the total number of days spent outside of the U.S. in the last 5 (or 3) years is fewer than 912 (or 547).
  - If it appears that the applicants' trips might total 912 or 547 days, ask for travel dates and/or copies of pages of all passports used in last 5 years before scheduling for an appointment.