



## **Requesting Accommodations**

Part 3, Question 1 provides an opportunity for applicants to request accommodations for the naturalization interview. The applicant may attach further information in an addendum or letter if the space provided is not enough. A sample letter can be found on the next page.

Part 3, Question 1 includes predetermined accommodations for applicants who are deaf or hard of hearing, or who are blind or low-vision. The N-400 Instructions also include examples of accommodations that can be requested, such as at-home interviews for applicants who are unable to travel. Other examples of accommodations that could be requested include:

- Loud interpreter or written test for an applicant who is deaf or hard of hearing;
- Allowing an applicant who cannot write to take the exam orally;
- Allowing a family member, guardian, or social worker to be present to act as an interpreter or help the applicant feel more calm and secure;
- Time extension on the civics test for an applicant with a learning disability;
- Questions which require only a “yes” or “no” answer;
- Allowing a non-verbal applicant to respond to questions by tapping, blinking, or head nodding;
- Prompt, on-time examinations for an applicant whose exam performance might suffer after being forced to wait in the office due to behavioral problems, pain, or fatigue; or
- Questions phrased in simplified language.

There is no definitive list of allowable accommodations. USCIS officers adjudicate requests for accommodations on a case-by-case basis and have been instructed to use “compassion and discretion” in making their determinations. Advocates should not avoid requesting other accommodations.

An applicant may wish to attach a letter of support from a doctor when requesting an accommodation. Such a letter is especially important if the applicant’s disability is not readily apparent, such as a mental illness or learning disability.