

## **CITIZENSHIP**

### **I married an Italian citizen. Am I entitled to Italian citizenship?**

If your marriage was celebrated before April 26 1983, the foreign wife automatically acquired husband's Italian citizenship. In case of marriages celebrated after April 26 1983, both husband and wife may acquire Italian citizenship after six months of marriage if the couple resides in Italy and after three years if they reside abroad. **In both cases this documented naturalization application should be submitted.**

It is a case of NATURALIZATION APPLICATION that can be filed, also from abroad, by a foreign citizen who married an Italian citizen, supplying the necessary documents provided from the Law. This naturalization is conferred by Ministry of Interior in Rome after about two years since the necessary documents were forwarded.

The spouse can submit this application only if the marriage has been recorded in Italy

### **I became an American citizen after August 16 1992. Did I lose my Italian citizenship?**

No. You can send to the Consulate a copy of the certificate of naturalization.

### **I was born in the US but I have an Italian direct ascendant. Am I entitled to dual citizenship?**

Yes, if your ancestor remained Italian citizen. If he acquired American citizenship, making a petition at the Consulate is necessary in order to verify citizenship.

Those who were born before 1948 may obtain Italian citizenship only through paternal direct ascendants (please visit the citizenship page under Consular Services).

### **My father was an Italian citizen at the time of my birth and I have never renounced my Italian citizenship. Can I reacquire Italian citizenship?**

Yes. The following documentation is required:

- your fathers birth certificate;
- your parents marriage certificate;
- your birth certificate;
- your fathers naturalization certificate or a letter from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service stating that he was naturalized AFTER your birth or your fathers current Italian passport and his Alien Registration Card.

The above mentioned documents should confirm that, if your father acquired US citizenship, he did it after your birth. If your father was naturalized BEFORE your birth, you are not entitled to Italian citizenship.

### **I was born after January 1, 1948, I have never renounced my Italian citizenship, and my mother was an Italian citizen at the time of my birth. Can I reacquire Italian citizenship?**

Yes. The following documentation is required:

- your mothers birth certificate;
- your parents marriage certificate;
- your birth certificate;

- your mothers naturalization certificate or a letter from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service stating that she was naturalized AFTER your birth or your mothers current Italian passport and Alien Registration Card.

The above mentioned documents should confirm that, if your mother acquired US citizenship, he did it after your birth. If your mother was naturalized BEFORE your birth, you are not entitled to Italian citizenship.

**My father was born in the U.S. and my paternal grandfather was an Italian citizen at the time of my father's birth and neither I nor my father ever renounced Italian citizenship. Can I reacquire Italian citizenship?**

Yes. The following documentation is required:

- your grandfathers birth certificate;
- your grandfather's marriage certificate;
- your grandfather's death certificate (if it applies);
- your fathers birth certificate;
- your parents marriage certificate;
- your birth certificate;
- your grandfathers naturalization certificate or a letter from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service stating that he was naturalized AFTER your father's birth or your grandfathers Italian passport and his Alien Registration Card.

If your grandfather was naturalized BEFORE your father's birth, your father and you are not entitled to Italian citizenship.

**I was born after January 1, 1948, my mother was born in the U.S. and my maternal grandfather was an Italian citizen at the time of my mother's birth and neither I nor my mother ever renounced Italian citizenship. Can I reacquire Italian citizenship?**

Yes. The following documentation is required:

- your maternal grandfathers birth certificate;
- your maternal grandfather's marriage certificate;
- your maternal grandfather's death certificate (if it applies);
- your mothers birth certificate;
- your parents marriage certificate;
- your birth certificate;
- your maternal grandfathers naturalization certificate or a letter from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service stating that he was naturalized AFTER your father's birth or your grandfathers Italian passport and his Alien Registration Card.

If your maternal grandfather was naturalized BEFORE your mother's birth, your mother and you are not entitled to Italian citizenship.

**I have completed my application. How long do I have to wait now before I can be an Italian citizen?**

Due to the enormous number of applications, the time period required for obtaining Italian citizenship has greatly increased over the last few years.

Equity and fairness reasons towards our users will compel this Consulate General to process files following a rigorous **CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER of ARRIVAL**