



Foreign Births Registration Notes Specific to Great Britain

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to your enquiry about acquiring Irish citizenship by Foreign Births Registration (FBR) under the terms of the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Acts, 1956 and 1986. The following information contained on these Notes are intended for guidance only to apply for Irish Citizenship through Foreign Births Registration and does not constitute a formal interpretation of Irish Law.

Anyone born outside the island of Ireland, whose parent was born in Ireland, is entitled to claim Irish Citizenship and should contact the Irish Passport Office in London, directly. If either of your grandparents were born on the island of Ireland, but whose parents were born abroad, you may be entitled to claim Irish Citizenship by applying for Foreign Births Registration (FBR). Citizenship is derived from the Irish born grandparent. **Please note, you will be required to submit with your application form, all of the documents relating to the applicant, the parent and grandparent as list below in Section A, B and C.**

In all cases a fully completed application form is required, **FB1A** if 18 years of age and over or **FB1B** if under 18. **Sections A & B** must be completed for all applications and **Section C** where relevant. **Section D** must be signed in the presence of the witness who will countersign **Section E**. All applications for citizenship take approximately six months to process. Irish passport applications can only be submitted, directly to the Passport Office, **after** Irish citizenship has been granted. Please call the Passport Office directly on (020) 7225 7700 for further inquiries.

Please note that documentation is submitted at the owners risk and any expense incurred in the submission of an application is borne by the applicant. It is **not** the policy of this office to offer recompense for any circumstance outside our control.

The applicant must prove to our satisfaction their claim to Irish citizenship and the Embassy reserves the right to seek whatever further clarification it considers necessary. Please read carefully the notes regarding the witnessing of the application form.

Consular Section

DOCUMENTS

Only original certificates issued by the appropriate state authority are accepted. The Embassy may request that documents originating from outside the EU must have an 'Apostille' attached by the home government. Certificates not in English must be accompanied by an official translation certified by the relevant Embassy/High Commission/Consulate in Great Britain. **For South African certificates, the 'Vault' copy or 'Unabridged' Computerised version must be provided. Laminated certificates will not be accepted.**

We **do not** accept short form birth certificates, Church Certificates, photocopies or scanned copies of documents. **Where a CHANGE OF NAME exists you must submit the original DEED POLL and two proofs of usage that at least two years old (e.g. Bank Statements, Utility Bills)**

Please note you may be asked to submit additional documentation to support your application at the request of the issuing officer. All original documents are returned when the application is processed.

DELIVERY & COLLECTION

All applicants MUST submit a pre-paid registered or special delivery envelope for return of the FBE Certificate and supporting documents. Otherwise, certificates WILL be returned by ordinary post.

Collections are only allowed if pre-arranged. If applicants are unable to call in person, they may authorise a third party to collect on their behalf, they must produce a letter signed by the applicant giving them permission to collect the certificate and photographic ID e.g. Passport.

Fees:

The fees for registration are **£100** if **18 years of age or over**, or **£32** if **under 18** years of age. Payment may be made by Cash, Bank Draft, Cheque or Postal Order and should be made payable to the 'Embassy of Ireland'. Please do not send cash through the post. **'Third Party'** cheques are not acceptable. **Please make sure to send in the CORRECT fee**

Declaration by Applicant

This declaration must be signed by the applicant in the presence of a member of one of the professions below, who is currently practicing in Great Britain.

Certificate of Identity

The applicant must sign Section D in the presence of a member of one of the following professions, who is at time of signing is:

- 1) Practicing in the UK.
- 2) Not related to or living with the applicant.

Police Officer (incl. the Collar Number)

Members of the Clergy (we define a member of the clergy as someone who can officiate at ceremonies i.e. weddings, funerals etc.)

Medical Doctor (must be registered with the GMC)

Solicitor (registered with the law society)

Bank Manager (includes building societies and postmasters)

Principal / Head Teachers (primary, secondary and tertiary educators only)

Magistrate \ Judge

NB: The witness should sign the back of your photographs. Place their OFFICIAL / WORKSTAMP beside their name on the application form. If using the FB1B form, ensure the parent signs the back of the minor's photographs and that all photographs are signed by the witness.

Ensure your witness is contactable at their place of employment, that they clearly print their employment address and contact phone number.
(Mobile numbers are STRICTLY not accepted)

N.B. The witness must be satisfied as to the identity of the applicant and/or have been identified to the witness by a person personally known to them. The witness must delete as appropriate on the application form, that the applicant is either personally known to them or identified to them by... Failure to delete the appropriate sentence will result in delays in processing the application.

Contacting or Visiting us

Please contact us at: Embassy of Ireland
Citizenship Section
17 Grosvenor Place
London, SW1X 7HR

(020) 7235 2171 (09.30 – 12.00 noon) or email fbrlondon@dfa.ie.
Applications may be submitted in person by appointment only between 2.30pm and 4.30pm on Thursdays.



Foreign Births Registration Notes Specific to Great Britain

Where the registration is sought on the basis of having a GRANDPARENT WHO WAS BORN IN IRELAND, all of the following must be produced to prove the line of descent;

Section A: Documents relating to the person whose birth is to be registered

1. **Original civil birth registration certificate** showing full details of parents to establish a clear relationship.
2. **Original civil marriage registration certificate**, if married, showing the age of each party at the date of marriage and the names of at least one of the parents of each party. If previously married, the original divorce and marriage certificates must be provided.
3. **Two proofs of address** given in Section D, e.g. phone, gas, electricity, council tax or water rates bills, bank or credit card statements, etc. If the applicant is under 18 proofs may be addressed to the person named in Section B on the application form.
4. **Applicants must submit their original, current passport.**
NOTE: Where the person to be registered is under 18 years of age, the Declarant (parent) must complete and SIGN Section D of the FB1B form. S/he must provide two of his/her own photographs, together with two of the child to be registered

Section B: Documents relating to the parent, through whom Irish citizenship is said to be derived

5. **Original civil birth registration certificate** showing full details of the Irish born parent to establish a clear relationship. If the parent has been adopted, this adoption must be first registered with the Foreign Adoption Board in Ireland. Only when the Foreign Adoption Certificate has been issued from the Irish Foreign Adoption Board will that parent be deemed to be an Irish Citizen. The person named in Section A must have been born after the date the Foreign Adoption is deemed to have taken effect. Citizenship is not retrospective.
6. **Original civil marriage registration certificate**, if married, showing the age of each party at the date of marriage and the names of at least one of the parents of each party. If previously married, the original divorce and marriage certificates must be provided.
7. **A photocopy of a formal, government issued ID** e.g. passport, driver's licence, **OR** if the parent is deceased, an original of the civil death certificate must be provided

Section C: Documents relating to the grandparent born in Ireland

8. **Original, long form, civil Irish birth certificate** showing full details of parents. If the grandparent was born before 1864, Baptism certificates are only considered with a search certificate from the General Registrar's Office of Ireland (ph.00 353 1 635 4000 or visit www.groireland.ie) stating that birth was not registered **along with further evidence of birth in Ireland.**
9. **Original, civil marriage registration certificate**, if married, showing the age of each party at the date of marriage and the names of at least one of the parents of each party. If previously married, the original divorce and marriage certificates must be provided.
10. **A photocopy of a formal, government issued ID** e.g. passport, driver's licence. **OR** if the grandparent is deceased, an original of the civil death certificate must be provided

FOREIGN BIRTHS REGISTRATION, POST-NUPTIAL CITIZENSHIP (PNC), NATURALISATION* or Foreign Adoption Certificate;

If the parent of the applicant acquired citizenship **before** the birth of the applicant via FOREIGN BIRTHS REGISTRATION/ENTRY (FBR/E), POST-NUPTIAL CITIZENSHIP (PNC), NATURALISATION*, all of the following must be produced to prove the line of descent;

1. Applicant's original civil birth registration certificate showing full details of parents to establish a clear relationship;
2. The original civil birth registration certificate, civil marriage registration certificate (if married) and copy of the Irish passport of parent who has already acquired Irish citizenship;
3. The original of the parents FBR/E certificate, PNC approval letter/certificate or the Naturalisation* or Foreign Adoption Certificate issued from the Irish Foreign Adoption Board - (*A declaration of intention to retain Irish Citizenship may be required)
4. **Two proofs of address** given in Section D, e.g. phone, gas, electricity, council tax, or water rates bills, bank or credit card statements, etc. If the applicant is under 18, proofs may be addressed to the person named in Section B of the application form.
5. **Applicants must submit their original, current passport.**