

### Form N-400 Frequently Asked Questions

### Q. What versions of the form are accepted?

A. On April 1, 2024, USCIS issued a new edition of the Form N-400, Application for Naturalization. As of June 3, 2024, USCIS will only accept the 04/01/24 edition of the Form N-400. The edition date can be found at the bottom of the page on the form and instructions.

## Q. Who is eligible for a fee waiver, and how do I apply?

A. You may be eligible for a fee waiver if one of the following apply: (1) you currently receive a means-tested benefit; (2) your income is at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines; or (3) you have an extreme financial hardship. For additional information, see Additional Information on Filing a Fee Waiver. To request a fee waiver, you may submit Form I-912 or a written request with documentation of eligibility.

At this time, you cannot file online if you are requesting a fee waiver. Instead, submit your fee waiver request and any supporting documentation along with your paper Form N-400. If submitting a fee waiver request, please note:

- Do not submit a fee.
- **Do not file both a request for a reduced fee and a request for a fee waiver.** (If you are submitting a fee waiver request with your Form N-400, you should *not* complete Part 10 of the Form N-400.)

Please see our <u>Form I-912</u>, <u>Request for Fee Waiver</u> page for more information about fee waiver requests.

#### Q. Who is eligible for a reduced fee, and how do I apply?

A. The new edition of Form N-400 incorporates in Part 10 a request for a reduced fee (\$380) based on household income. You are eligible for a reduced fee if your income is between 150% and 400% of the <u>Federal Poverty Guidelines</u>. If requesting a reduced fee, you must file your Form N-400 by mail.

For additional information about reduced fees, please see <u>Frequently Asked Questions on the USCIS Fee Rule.</u>

## Q. How do I request a disability accommodation/modification if Part 3, Accommodations, was removed from the form?

A. To request a disability accommodation/modification, follow the instructions on your appointment notice or at www.uscis.gov/accommodationsinfo.



#### Q. Can I file online?

A. Yes, you can file the Form N-400 <u>online</u>. However, if you are requesting a fee waiver (<u>Form I-912</u>) or a reduced fee, you cannot file online and must file a paper Form N-400. You can download the N-400 form and instructions at <a href="https://www.uscis.gov/n-400">https://www.uscis.gov/n-400</a>.

# Q. I had a draft of the Form N-400 saved in my USCIS Online Account in March, but now it is gone. Why is that?

A. After the publication of our new <u>fee rule</u>, we notified users in their myUSCIS accounts informing them that, if they had any existing drafts or any newly created Form N-400 applications, they would need to submit them by March 31, 2024, or we would delete the applications and they would need to start a new application on April 1.

On April 1, 2024, we deleted any Form N-400 drafts in progress. This was necessary because Form N-400 is the only form currently available for online filing where the online version did not have a grace period when the new form version was required starting on April 1.

If you create a new draft, be aware that any online draft form that has been inactive for 30 days will be deleted.

## Q. Do I need to add information about my current spouse or all previous spouses?

A. The 04/01/24 edition of the Form N-400 asks about marital status and if you are currently married or had previously been married, the forms instructs you to provide your marriage certificate and documentation of termination of previous marriages, if applicable. The form only asks for additional details about your current spouse if you are applying for naturalization based on your marriage to a U.S. citizen. The form no longer asks details about previous marriages or your spouse's previous marriages.

### Q. What are the differences between the paper and online versions of the N-400?

A. The most significant difference between a paper filing and an online filing is that the online form is tailored to you, based on your basis for filing, and adapts depending on how you answer questions on the form. The online system also provides alerts notifying you of missing information or evidence, which must be corrected before you can submit your application.

In addition, an applicant who files the N-400 online receives a \$50 filing fee discount. For more information, see the G-1055, Fee Schedule.

If you are requesting a reduced fee or filing a fee waiver, you cannot file Form N-400 online. You must file a paper Form N-400.

For additional information about filing online, see <u>File Online</u> and <u>Benefits of a USCIS</u> <u>Online Account</u>.



## Q. What questions were removed, compared with the previous edition of the N-400?

A. The 04/01/24 edition of the Form N-400 eliminated some questions that were previously asked in the 09/17/19 edition. Here are some of the questions that were removed:

- Former Part 2, items 13(a)-(c), Exemptions from the English Test
  - Our systems now automatically calculate the exemption eligibility based on the age, years of residence, and time of filing.
- Former Part 3, Accommodations (now on page 5, Disability)
  - o See more information about how to request an accommodation.
- Former Part 6, Information About Your Parents
  - We added instructional language to assist applicants to determine if they may already be a U.S. citizen through their parents.
- Former Part 10, Information About Your Marital History (now Part 5, Information About Your Marital History)
  - The 04/01/24 edition of the Form N-400 asks about marital status and if you are currently married or have previously been married; the form instructs you to provide your marriage certificate and documentation of termination of previous marriages. The form only asks for additional details about your current spouse if you are applying for naturalization based on your marriage to a U.S. citizen. The form no longer asks details about previous marriages or your spouse's previous marriages.
- Former Part 11, Information About Your Children (now Part 6, Information About Your Children)
  - The new Form N-400 now only asks information about an applicant's children under 18. We continue to ask information about these children, but the revised form created a table to collect this information to shorten the form. It also added a check box to indicate if the applicant is providing support to the child.

Other questions were consolidated and/or clarified, including:

- Former Part 12, Additional Information About You (now Part 9, Additional Information About You)
  - The table of group membership has been revised into a question about membership and involvement in certain groups. Questions were changed and clarified to elicit more detailed information regarding eligibility (items 9(a) and (b)).
  - Due to the lapse in time, USCIS no longer specifically asks applicants about membership or association with the Nazi government or its allies (item 13).

# Q. What are some examples of additions or clarifications to the N-400 (04/01/24 edition)?

A. The 04/01/24 edition changed data elements, including adding a gender X option as another gender identity; added instructional language; clarified and streamlined questions;



and reorganized the form into 16 parts. Here are some examples of additions or clarifications in the 04/01/24 edition:

- Part 1, Information About Your Eligibility, expanded the options for filing criteria. The previous edition had 5 options (A-E); now the form offers 7 options for an eligibility basis (A-G).
- Part 2, Information About You:
  - o Item 5, Gender, added "Another Gender Identity" as an option.
  - Items 12(a)-(c) added questions to allow applicants to obtain an original or replacement Social Security card, and to consent to USCIS' disclosure of information to the Social Security Administration (SSA) regarding the applicant's immigration status if the application is approved and they take the oath.
- Part 4, Information About Your Residence: Instead of including multiple pages of long-form address reporting, we now require the current physical address to be reported in multiple fields. Prior address history is now captured in a table. Mailing address, if applicable, is still requested, and applicants can indicate if they have a safe address.
- Part 8, Time Outside the United States We continue to ask information about an applicant's travel history, but we do not require the applicant to list the number of days they are outside of the United States. Our systems automatically calculate the time an applicant is outside of the United States and alert officers of any trips calculated to be more than 180 days.
- Part 10, Income for Purposes of Filing with a Reduced Fee: This new part eliminated the Form I-942, Request for a Reduced Fee, and added questions for applicants to request a reduced fee for the Form N-400.