

Frequently Asked Questions:

The National Italian American Foundation merely serves as a host for the Dual Citizenship Questionnaire **and cannot and will not** assist and/or respond to any questions or inquiries. All questions and/or comments regarding this online resource **must** be directed to the Embassy of Italy and its respective Consular offices.

If you find any of the resources to be invalid or outdated in this **Frequently Asked Questions**, please direct your comments via email to Giuseppina Spillane at gspillane@niaf.org with "Update Citizenship FAQ" in the subject line. Thank you.

Q: Does the online questionnaire begin my citizenship application?

A: No, it does not. The process is initiated after you contact your consulate. In order to pursue dual citizenship you have to be very proactive in the whole procedure. It is your responsibility alone to gather all the necessary documents and get in contact with the Italian consulate that has jurisdiction over your address of residence. The procedure in gaining dual citizenship is all but easy, therefore a proactive attitude and a lot of patience is the best approach to achieve your goal.

Q: How long does it take to obtain citizenship?

A: According to a representative from the Italian embassy:

"It all depends on many factors; however there is no general time frame. All citizenship applications are taken on a case by case basis. It can take as long as a few years".



HAVING TROUBLE GETTING YOUR CITIZENSHIP?

The National Italian American Foundation created a partnership with **Bella Consultants, Inc.**, and **My Italian Family, LLC**, to provide **NIAF members** with discounts on professional services that help individuals apply for citizenship and research their genealogy. They strive to help clients open new doors of opportunity by unlocking the old doors of heritage. For more information about NIAF Membership [Click Here](#).

The discounts for NIAF members are the following:



10% discount to Foundation members on professional service agreements in excess of \$350. The professional services include, but may not be limited to:

- ✓ evaluation candidacy for Italian citizenship;
- ✓ assistance with document procurement in the US and Italy;
- ✓ procurement of apostilles;
- ✓ individual application preparation; and/or
- ✓ professional advice and assistance associated with a specific application for dual Italian citizenship.

The discount does **not** apply to the:

- * direct costs associated in obtaining the documents themselves.
- * direct costs associated with the translation of documents.

For more information, please visit www.bellaconsultants.com



- ✓10% discount of total cost of translating documents (cost is assessed only by company quote).
- ✓research of Italian birth/marriage/death records for \$100 minus a 20% NIAF discount.
- ✓research of military or census records for \$100 minus a 20% NIAF discount.
- ✓Research of Family History up to two (2) generations for \$600 minus a 10% NIAF discount.
- ✓Research of family history up to five (5) generations for \$1,300 minus a 10% NIAF discount.
- ✓Research of family history up to nine (9) generations for \$2,800 minus a 10% NIAF discount.
- ✓Research of family history back to the 1600s for \$2,000 minus a 10% NIAF discount.
- ✓Research Italian living relatives for \$1,300 minus 10% discount.

For more information, please visit www.myitaliafamily.com



About Italian Representation in the US

Q: Which Italian Consulate has jurisdiction over my address of residence?

[Embassy link](#)

[Consulates link](#)

Q: Where and how can I find copies of my family records?

[Answer](#)

Q: How do I become an Italian citizen? Or, how do I gain back my Italian citizenship? Are my spouse and child eligible?

[Answer](#)

The principle of jure sanguinis is that you are Italian since birth. The process recognizes the citizenship you already possess. Italian law state that spouses of Italian citizens and children can apply for citizenship. Spouses can attain citizenship after six months if living in Italy, and three years if living abroad. Children can apply with parents if under 18 years of age, or will have to apply separately if an adult.

Q: Could women pass citizenship to their children before January 1, 1948?

No; only children born to Italian mothers after January 1, 1948 are eligible. (Refer to the answer above).

Q: What if I do not know when my Italian ancestor was naturalized?

For naturalizations occurring after 1906, visit the website of the US Citizenship and Immigration Services.

[View Link](#)

Q: Where do I make the request for a Certification of Nonexistence of a Record?

USCIS Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Office

[View Link](#) for guidelines.

Q: Which law governs the one year military service for men, and what does it say?

[Answer](#)

Q: What is AIRE (Registry of Citizens Residing Abroad) and how do I register?

[Answer](#)

Q: Whom do I contact to vote in elections?

[Answer](#)

Q. Which office issues passports, and what procedure do I have to follow?

[Answer](#)

Q: I wish to enroll in an Italian university; where do I begin?

[Answer](#)

Q: What is an apostille and where do I get one?

[What](#)

[Where](#)

Q: Which documents/certificates require apostilles?

All American birth, marriage and death certificates for all relatives in a direct line between you and your Italian ancestor must have apostilles. Please contact your local consulate to see exactly which documents are necessary before proceeding to get the apostilles.

Q: Are photocopies of documents/certificates acceptable?

No, all certificates must be in *certified copy* – sometimes referred to as *long form* or *full form*.

Q: Can I keep all my original documents/certificates that I submit for my citizenship application?

No, the Italian embassy or consulate will keep the originals.

Q: Can I keep my ancestor's original documents/certificates that I submit from Italy?

No, the Italian embassy or consulate will keep the originals.

Questions?

The Embassy & The Consulates' Citizenship Offices

Consulate	Address	Contact Numbers	Email
Boston	600 Atlantic 17 th Floor Boston, MA 02210	617-722-9303	statocivile.boston@esteri.it
Chicago	500 North Michigan Ave. Suite 1850 Chicago, IL 60611	312-467-1550	cittadinanza.chicago@esteri.it
Detroit	535 Griswold Suite 1840 Detroit, MI 48226	313-963-8560	cittadinanza.detroit@esteri.it
Houston	1300 Post Oak Boulevard Suite 660 Houston, TX 77056	713-850-7520	cittadinanza.houston@esteri.it
Los Angeles	12400 Wilshire Boulevard Suite 300 Los Angeles, CA 90025	www.conslosangeles.esteri.it/Consolato_LosAngeles	
Miami	400 Ponce de Leon Suite 590 Coral Gables, FL 33146	305.374.6322	cittadinanza.miami@esteri.it
New York	690 Park Avenue	212-439-8602	statocivile.newyork@esteri.it

	New York, NY 10021		
Newark	One Gateway Center Suite 100 Newark, NJ 10021	973-643-1448	consolato.newark@esteri.it
Philadelphia	1026 Public Ledger Building 100 South 6 th Street Philadelphia, PA 19106-3470	215-279-9564 215-279-9574	statocivile.filadelfia@esteri.it
San Francisco	2590 Webster Street San Francisco, CA 94115	Fax: 415-931-7205	www.conssanfrancisco.esteri.it
Washington	3000 Whitehaven Street, NW Washington, DC 20008	202-612-4422	statocivile.washington@esteri.it



About the US and the US State Department

Q: I am going to be a “Member of the Civilian Component in Italy”; is dual-citizenship advisable? (pg 16).

[Answer](#)

Q: What does the US State Department claim in regards to dual nationality?

[Answer](#)

Q: What are the security clearance implications for dual citizens?

[Answer](#)

Q: Under what circumstances could I lose my American citizenship?

[Answer](#)

Q: How would consular notification work for a dual citizen within the US in case of arrest?

[Answer](#)

Q: My wife is a non-US citizen, what does the State Department conclude on the matter?

[Answer](#)

Q: I am a U.S. citizen working abroad. Are my foreign earnings taxable?

[Answer](#)



About the European Union

Q: What is European citizenship?

[Answer](#)

Q: What kind of guarantees does the European Union give me inside and outside of the EU?

[Inside](#)

[Outside](#)

Q: What formalities do I need to do when leaving/arriving to/from an EU country?

[Answer](#)

Q: As an Italian citizen, can I live in another European country? What are the conditions?

[Answer](#)

Q: I am an Italian citizen; can I study in another European country?

[Answer](#)

Q: As an Italian citizen could I work in another EU country? What are the conditions?

[Answer](#)