



Naturalization Records

Naturalization is the process by which an alien becomes an American citizen. Depending on the time period, the records that documented this process can provide a researcher with a person's birth date and place of birth, occupation, immigration year, marital status, information on spouse and children, and more. A naturalization record can include a certificate of arrival, declaration of intention, and petition for naturalization.

The National Archives at New York City has dextrigraph copies of naturalization records prior to 1907 for all courts in New York City. After this date we only hold original naturalization records from the Federal District Courts in New York, New Jersey, and Puerto Rico. Naturalizations were also processed in local courts for certain time periods in many areas including New York and New Jersey. Except for our pre-1907 New York City dextrigraph collection, the National Archives does not have access to these local court records.

Many naturalization records have been digitized and can be located online. If a New York or New Jersey naturalization record that was issued through a Federal District Court is not available through our online resources or our microfilm collection we can furnish you with a copy of the original document, as long as the declaration or petition number is known or can be located through our available indexes.

If the record you need is not available online or on microfilm you will need a researcher card to request a copy of the original record. Inquire at the research room desk to apply for a researcher card. If you need a certified copy of a naturalization record, you must first locate the record citation in the indexes, and the copy of the record must be made by a staff member from the microfilm or from the original documents if a copy is not available on microfilm. Certified copies of records are normally requested for specific legal reasons.

Online Naturalization Records Resources:

[Ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) – Free using our Public Access Computers

<http://www.ancestryinstitution.com/>

Ancestry.com has naturalization indexes and digitized copies of the records for a variety of states and includes many local, state, and district courts. You can search by the declarant's or petitioner's name and view and print either index entries or scanned images of naturalization records. Ancestry is a subscription database. It is available for free public use at all National Archives research facilities and many public libraries.

[Fold3](http://www.fold3.com) – Free using our Public Access Computers

<http://www.fold3.com>

Fold3 has naturalization indexes and digitized copies of the records for a variety of states and includes many local, state, and district courts. You can search by the declarant's or petitioner's name and view and print either index entries or scanned images of naturalization records. Fold3 is a subscription database. It is available for free public use at all National Archives research facilities and many public libraries.

[German Genealogy Group](http://theggg.org) [http://theggg.org/](http://theggg.org)

The German Genealogy Group provides a free web site with a variety of databases for genealogical research including indexes for naturalization records covering many New York and New Jersey courts.

[Italian Genealogical Group](http://italiengen.org) <http://italiengen.org/>

The Italian Genealogical Group provides a free web site with a variety of databases for genealogical research including indexes for naturalization records covering many New York and New Jersey courts.

Other Online Resources for Naturalization Records:

[Naturalization Records](http://www.archives.gov/research/naturalization/naturalization.html) information page from the National Archives
<http://www.archives.gov/research/naturalization/naturalization.html>

[Women and Naturalization, ca. 1802-1940](http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1998/summer/women-and-naturalization-1.html) Prologue article by Marian L. Smith
<http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1998/summer/women-and-naturalization-1.html>

[Brochure on U.S. Citizenship and Immigration \(USCIS\) Genealogy Program](http://www.uscis.gov/USCIS/Genealogy/genealogy%20brochure%203-09.pdf)
<http://www.uscis.gov/USCIS/Genealogy/genealogy%20brochure%203-09.pdf>

[Derivative Citizenship of Children](https://www.uscis.gov/us-citizenship/citizenship-through-parents) information page from USCIS
<https://www.uscis.gov/us-citizenship/citizenship-through-parents>

Microfilm Naturalization Records Resources:

Much of the microfilm holdings of the National Archives has been digitized and is now available for research online. Many of our naturalization records that were microfilmed have also been digitized. Researchers can search these records on microfilm or through Ancestry and Fold3 on our free public access computers. Below is a list of microfilm publications for naturalization records that are available for use at the National Archives at New York City.

Publication #	Publication Title
M-1674	Soundex Index To Petitions For Naturalizations Filed In Federal, State, And Local Courts In New York City, 1792-1906
M-1675	Alphabetical Index To Declarations Of Intention Of The U.S. District Court For The Southern District Of New York, 1917-1950
M-1676	Alphabetical Index To Petitions For Naturalization Of The U.S. District Court For The Southern District Of New York, 1824-1941
M-1677	Alphabetical Index To Petitions For Naturalization Of The U.S. District Court For The Western District Of New York, 1906-1966
M-1879	U.S. District Court For The Eastern District Of New York Petitions For Naturalization, 1865-1937 (Volume No. 1, Page 1 to Petition No. 241700)
M-1972	U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York Petitions for Naturalization, 1897-1944 (Volume No. 64, Page 1 to Petition No. 436400)
M-2120	U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York Petitions for Naturalization, 1944-1946 Coming Soon
M-2123	U.S. District Court for New Jersey, Newark Petitions for Naturalization, 1914 – 1945 (Petition No. 1 to Petition No. 83104)

The National Archives at New York City

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Visit Us Online at: <http://www.archives.gov/nyc/>