

# Citizenship & immigration questions on the Marketplace application

When you fill out your Marketplace application on **HealthCare.gov**, you may be asked questions about your citizenship and immigration status. This fact sheet will give you more information on how to answer these questions and where to get help, if you need it.

## Are you a U.S. citizen or U.S. national?

- A **U.S. citizen** is someone who was born in the United States (including U.S. territories except for American Samoa) or who was born outside the U.S. and who:
  - Was naturalized as a U.S. citizen.
  - Derived citizenship through the naturalization of his or her parent(s).
  - Derived citizenship through adoption by U.S. citizen parents, provided certain conditions are met.
  - Acquired citizenship at birth because he or she was born to U.S. citizen parent(s).
  - Is a U.S. citizen by operation of law.
- A **U.S. national** is someone who's either a U.S. citizen or non-citizen who owes permanent allegiance to the U.S. In nearly all cases, non-citizen U.S. nationals are people born in American Samoa or abroad with one or more American Samoan parents under certain conditions.
- A **lawfully present immigrant** is someone who has:
  - "Qualified non-citizen" immigration status without a waiting period.
  - Humanitarian status or circumstance (including Temporary Protected Status, Special Juvenile Status, asylum applicants, Convention Against Torture, and victims of trafficking).
  - A valid non-immigrant visa.
  - Legal status conferred by other laws (temporary resident status, LIFE Act, or Family Unity individuals).

You don't have to be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or lawfully present immigrant to qualify for health coverage. When you're asked if you're a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or lawfully present immigrant on the Marketplace application, you can view a list of other eligible immigration statuses, and check the box if any apply to you.

We'll verify this information with trusted federal data sources, based on the consent you gave at the start of your application.

## Are you a naturalized or derived citizen?

### ■ A **naturalized citizen**:

- A foreign citizen or national who obtained U.S. citizenship by fulfilling certain requirements established by law. A naturalized citizen wasn't born in the U.S. and didn't get U.S. citizenship automatically through his or her relationship to a U.S. citizen.
- Should have a "Certificate of Naturalization" (Form N-550 or N-570).

### ■ A **derived citizen**:

- A person who derives U.S. citizenship through his or her relationship to a U.S. citizen (by operation of law).
- May be given to children through the naturalization of the children's parents, through passage of certain laws, or through adoption of foreign-born children by U.S. citizen parents. A person who acquires U.S. citizenship may have a "Certificate of Citizenship" (Form N-560 or N-561).

## Document types for naturalized or derived citizens

If you're a naturalized or derived citizen, select one of these documents:

**If you have a "Naturalization Certificate,"** you'll need these numbers from your document:

- Alien number
- Naturalization Certificate number

**If you have a "Certificate of Citizenship,"** you'll need these numbers from your document:

- Alien number
- Certificate of Citizenship number

If you need help finding information on your document, check on the back of the document. Some older documents may not list both numbers.

We can't electronically verify your status using your U.S. passport, state-issued driver's license or ID card, or birth certificate. However, if you don't have a "Naturalization Certificate" or "Certificate of Citizenship," you can still submit an application and get a temporary eligibility determination. **Then, you'll be asked to provide a copy of your other citizenship documentation to the Marketplace for review.**

**To verify your naturalized citizen status,** enter the alien number, which can be found at the top, right-hand corner of the "Certificate of Naturalization" (Form N-550). Also enter the "Certificate of Naturalization" number. The Naturalization Certificate number can be found at the top, right-hand corner of the "Certificate of Naturalization" (Form N-550).

**To verify your derived citizenship status**, enter the alien number, which can be found at the top, right-hand corner of the “Certificate of Citizenship” (Form N-560 or N-561). Also enter the “Certificate of Citizenship” (Form N-560 or N-561) number. This number can be found at the top, right-hand corner of the “Certificate of Citizenship” (Form N-560 or N-561).

**Note:** This fact sheet talks about alien numbers. These numbers are sometimes called “alien registration numbers” or “USCIS numbers.” Alien numbers start with an “A” and end with 8 or 9 numbers.

## More questions about citizenship & immigration status

You may be asked more questions about your citizenship/immigration status, including:

- If your name on your application is the same name as on your document: If your name on your immigration document is different than what’s shown, select “No,” and enter your name as it’s listed on your document. We’ll use this to check information with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Your information will never be used for immigration enforcement purposes.
- If you’ve continuously lived in the U.S. since 1996: If you came to live in the U.S. before August 22, 1996, and have taken trips outside the U.S. for less than 30 days per trip, or less than 90 days total, select “Yes.”
- If you, your current or unmarried surviving spouse, or your parent (if you’re an unmarried independent child) is an honorably discharged veteran or active-duty member of the military, select “Yes.”
- If you forgot to check the immigration status box:
  - If you select “Yes,” you’ll have a chance to check the “eligible immigration status” box. Visit [HealthCare.gov/immigrants/immigration-status](https://www.healthcare.gov/immigrants/immigration-status) for the list of eligible immigration statuses.
  - If you select “No,” you can continue with the application. If you don’t have an “eligible immigration status” for purposes of Marketplace coverage and don’t have a “qualified non-citizen status” for purposes of full Medicaid eligibility, you may still be able to get Medicaid coverage for emergency medical conditions, like for labor and delivery if you have a baby. In some states, pregnant women may also be able to get Medicaid coverage.

If you’re not applying for health coverage for yourself, we don’t need information about your citizenship or immigration status.

## Immigration document types

Here’s a list of the documents that can be used to show your immigration status. See below for information about each document type. You can also see an example of what each document looks like by selecting the name of the document. On your application, select the document type from the drop-down list that corresponds with your most current documentation and status.

- **Permanent Resident Card, “Green Card,” (I-551)**, you’ll need your alien number and card number (also called receipt number) from your document.

Permanent Resident Cards are issued to lawful permanent residents. A lawful permanent resident (LPR) or “Green Card” recipient is a person who isn’t a U.S. citizen, but who’s residing in the U.S. under legally recognized and lawfully recorded permanent residence as an immigrant. If you’re a lawful permanent resident, you should use this document on the Marketplace application to show eligible immigration status, if possible. To verify your eligible immigration status, enter the alien number, which is listed under the heading “A#” or “USCIS#.” Also enter the I-551 card number, which is listed on either the front or back of the card and starts with 3 letters and ends with 10 numbers. To verify your status, the Marketplace will need both the alien number and the I-551 card number. If you have trouble finding these numbers, check on the back of the card. Some older cards may not list both numbers.

- **Reentry Permit (I-327)**, you’ll need your alien number from your document.

Re-entry permits, when valid, allow permanent residents to leave and re-enter the U.S. These permits are located in multi-purpose booklets called “U.S. Travel Documents.” Enter the alien number, which is located on the right-hand side of the document.

- **Refugee Travel Document (I-571)**, you’ll need your alien number from your document.

Refugee Travel Documents may be issued to refugees and asylees (and lawful permanent residents who adjusted from refugee/asylee status) for travel purposes. These permits should be located in multi-purpose booklets called “U.S. Travel Documents.” Enter the alien number, which is located on the right-hand side of the document.

- **Employment Authorization Card (I-766)**, you’ll need your alien number, card number, expiration date, and category code from your document.

Employment Authorization Cards are issued to some people who are authorized to work temporarily in the U.S. Enter the alien number and the card expiration date, as listed on the card. If you have trouble finding these numbers, check on the back of the card. Some older cards may not list both numbers.

- **Machine-Readable Immigrant Visa (MRIVs) (with temporary I-551 language)**, you’ll need your alien number, passport number, and country of issuance from your document.

MRIVs (with temporary I-551 language) are documents indicating permanent resident status. Enter the passport number and the alien number, which may start with an “A.” Some MRIVs may not have an “A” before the number.

- **Temporary I-551 Stamp (on passport or I-94/I-94A)**, you’ll need your alien number from your document.

Temporary I-551 stamps can be used to attest to permanent resident status. A temporary I-551 stamp will have a handwritten or stamped issue date and a “valid until” date. This stamp can be found on the front of an I-94 form or in the foreign passport. Enter the alien number.

- **Arrival/Departure Record (I-94/I-94A)**, you'll need your I-94 number from your document.

I-94 Arrival/Departure Records are issued to foreign travelers when they enter the U.S. in either paper or electronic formats. Enter the I-94 number, which is usually found at the top, left-hand side of the form. The I-94 paper form will no longer be provided upon arrival to the U.S. at most air and sea ports of entry, except in limited circumstances. If a person doesn't have a paper version of the I-94, they can get a copy at [cbp.gov/I94](https://cbp.gov/I94).

Arrival/Departure Record (I-94) in foreign passport, you'll need your I-94 number, passport number, expiration date, and country of issuance from your document.

I-94 Arrival/Departure Records are issued to foreign travelers when they enter the U.S. The bottom portion of the paper I-94 should be stapled to the foreign passport. Enter the I-94 number, which is usually found at the top, left-hand side of the form. Also enter the passport number, expiration date, and country of issuance.

- **Foreign passport**, you'll need your passport number, expiration date, and country of issuance from your document.

Passports from foreign countries are used when entering the U.S. Enter the passport number, passport expiration date, and country of issuance. You may be able to get a copy of your I-94 information by visiting [cbp.gov/I94](https://cbp.gov/I94) and entering your information.

- **Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status (I-20)**, you'll need your SEVIS ID from your document.

I-20 Certificates of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status are the documents that support applications for student visa statuses (For M visas). Enter the SEVIS ID number, which is located at the top, right-hand side of the document.

- **Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status (DS-2019)**, you'll need your SEVIS ID from your document.

Certificates of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status are documents that support applications for exchange visitor visa statuses (J visa). Enter the SEVIS ID number, which is located at the top, right-hand side of the document.

- **Notice of Action (I-797)**, you'll need your alien number or your I-94 number from your document.

Notices of Action are communication from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service about immigration benefits. I-797s can be used for different purposes, like an approval notice, receipt notice, or a replacement for an I-94. Sometimes these notices have other documents attached to them, like I-360s (petitions for Amerasian, widow(er), or special immigrant statuses). If you've been issued a new immigration benefit or had the duration of your stay in the U.S. extended, you'll be issued an I-797 with a tear-away I-94 at the bottom. You should enter your I-94 number.

- **Another type of document or status type**, select "Other." You'll need your alien number or your I-94 number. You'll also need to describe the type or name of your document.

If you said you have another document or status type (that isn't on the list above), you'll be asked to select which of these document types or statuses you have.

- **Document indicating a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe or American Indian born in Canada:** There are a several documents that can show you're a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe or that you're an American Indian born in Canada, including membership cards, letters, or other tribal documents. For American Indians born in Canada, this could also include a birth certificate or other evidence of being born in Canada. You'll need to upload or mail your documents later on in the application process.
- **Certification from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR):** This is a certification letter from the U.S. Office of Refugee Resettlement that's issued to an individual who is a victim of a severe form of trafficking. These letters state victims are eligible for benefits and services. You'll need to upload or mail your documents later on in the application process.
- **Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) eligibility letter (if under 18):** This is a letter from the U.S. Office of Refugee Resettlement and indicates a child is a victim of a severe form of trafficking. These letters state victims are eligible for benefits and services. You'll need to upload your document later on in the application process.
- **Cuban/Haitian entrant:** People who are "Cuban or Haitian entrants" must be Cuban or Haitian and:
  - Granted parole into the U.S.
  - Have an application for asylum pending with USCIS.
  - Granted special status under the immigration laws for nationals of Cuba or Haiti.
  - Are a subject of removal proceedings. If you're Cuban or Haitian or you're not sure, you can select this, and we can check our data sources.
- **Document indicating withholding of removal (or "withholding of deportation"):** There are several documents that might show withholding of removal or deportation.
- **Resident of American Samoa:** A document showing you're a resident of, or live in, American Samoa. You'll need to upload your document later on in the application process.
- **Administrative order staying removal issued by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS):** A document from the DHS showing you got an order staying removal or deportation. There are several documents that might show you have an administrative order staying removal issued by DHS.
- **Other:** If you don't see your document or status type listed, describe or enter the name of another type of immigration document issued by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or Customs and Border Protection. If you select "Other," you'll be asked to enter:
  - **Description:** Provide the name or describe the type of document you have.
  - **Alien number or I-94 number:** Enter either the alien number or the I-94 number, which is 11 digits, listed on the immigration document.
- **None of these:** Select this if nothing on this list applies to you. You can continue through the application without selecting a document or status.

To verify your status using only an alien number or I-94 number, select “Other documents or status types” from the document-type drop-down. Then, check the “Other” box. A field will appear asking you to provide a description of the type of document you have that supports your status and to select whether you have an alien number or an I-94 number. Enter this number into the document number field that will appear. You shouldn’t use this option to verify your immigration status if you have an alien number, I-94 number, and one of the document types listed earlier on the application.

## For more information

If you have more than one current immigration document, select one that contains an alien number, if possible.

If you have temporary protected status (TPS), you may have an automatic extension of your status, even if your document is expired.

If you need help finding information on your document, check on the back of the document. Some older documents may not list all numbers. If you need help completing this section, or help with any other section of your Marketplace application, call the Marketplace Call Center at 1-800-318-2596. TTY users should call 1-855-889-4325.

If you don’t think your immigration document correctly shows your status, you can still upload your documents and continue with your application. To get your record updated, you can make an InfoPass appointment with a USCIS representative or review your records, or you can submit a written request. For more information, visit [uscis.gov/save](https://uscis.gov/save) and select “For Benefit Applications” then “How to Correct Your Records.” Or, you can call the USCIS National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283.



