

Kirirarautanga o Aotearoa - Taiohi Hāmoa

Application for New Zealand citizenship by grant - Samoan Child



Internal Affairs
Te Tari Taiwhenua

GNT008 - CBG Samoan Child

Use this form if your child is a Samoan citizen aged 15 years or under and they want to apply for New Zealand citizenship by grant.

Both parents must give their consent before New Zealand citizenship can be granted to a child.

Check your child meets the requirements and learn about how to apply at: govt.nz/citizenship

The easiest way to apply is online.

Before you apply

To be eligible for a grant of citizenship under the Citizenship (Western Samoa) Act 1982, your child must meet the following criteria:

- Your child is a Samoan citizen; and
- Your child lawfully entered New Zealand and has New Zealand residence.

‘Lawfully enter’ means that your child had a permit to enter New Zealand and they used their own passport.

‘New Zealand residence’ means your child has a current residence permit, permanent residence visa or residence visa issued by Immigration New Zealand (INZ), your child is an Australian citizen or permanent resident, or your child is a New Zealand citizen by descent.

What you need to complete this application

- Your child’s original birth certificate.
- Passports of both parents or legal guardians.
- Your child’s current passport(s) or most recent if it has expired.
- 2 identical colour passport-style photos of your child that are less than 6 months old. We recommend you have your photos taken by a business that offers a passport photo service. These businesses can ensure your photos meet our requirements. Do not staple, glue or paper-clip photos to this application as this damages the photos.
- A person who can act as a witness for your child. They must complete Section 7: Witness section.
- The application fee of \$235.10 per child aged 15 years or under.

We may ask you to send us other documents.

We do not accept photocopies.

If you do not have all the original documents you need, you can contact your local embassy or ask a relative in Samoa for help.

Make sure the information you provide is true and correct. All questions must be answered. If you need more space to answer a question, use another piece of paper. If it is later found that you have provided false or misleading information, your child may be denied or lose New Zealand citizenship once it is granted. You may also face criminal charges, or both.

Withdrawals and refunds

If your child does not meet the requirements for citizenship, you can withdraw the application and get a partial refund of the application fee. Part of the fee is kept to cover the costs of the initial processing of your child's application.

Contact us

Website: govt.nz/contact-citizenship-office

Email: citizenship@dia.govt.nz

Only use email for queries about this form. Do not email your application to us.

Privacy statement

Collection, authorisation, and use of information in support of this application

In order to process your child's citizenship application, we will need to collect some personal information from you. The decision to give us this information is your choice. If you do not give us all the information we need, we may decline your child's application.

We need this information to:

- verify you and your child's identity, and
- assist the Minister of Internal Affairs to decide whether your child qualifies for a grant of New Zealand citizenship.

We collect and hold information from this form at the Department of Internal Affairs, PO Box 10680, Wellington. Under the Privacy Act 2020 you can request access to and correction of the personal information we hold about you or your child.

The information collected in your application may be used in statistical analysis and reporting for service improvement and business management purposes. Personal information will only be used where necessary for those purposes.

Data is stored, accessed and retained in accordance with our Privacy Policy, Information Management Policy, and the DIA Code of Conduct which incorporates our ICT and security policies, and in compliance with the Privacy Act 2020 and the Public Records Act 2005.

Information sharing

The Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) relies on the Identity Services Approved Information Sharing Agreement (IS AISA) to access information relating to your and your child's birth, death, marriage, name change, civil union and passport when verifying your identity.

DIA relies on the Customer Nominated Services Approved Information Sharing Agreement (CNS AISA) to share information with Immigration New Zealand (INZ) to verify your and your child's identity and confirm eligibility requirements are met for a grant of New Zealand citizenship.

DIA may share your child's citizenship information once they have been granted citizenship with other government agencies. Full details of DIA's information-sharing practices are available on our website: dia.govt.nz/Legal-Privacy-Index

Fees statement

All fees are in New Zealand dollars. All fees are correct as at the form version date.

Quick quiz

Use this quiz to help you find out if your child can become a citizen.

1. Is your child a Samoan citizen?

- ☐ Yes ► Continue to question 2.
- ☐ No ► Go to Statement 1.

2. Did your child enter New Zealand lawfully?

- ☐ Yes ► Continue to question 3.
- ☐ No ► Go to Statement 2.

3. Does your child have New Zealand residency?

- ☐ Yes ► Go to Statement 3.
- ☐ No ► Go to Statement 2.

Statement 1: If your child is not a Samoan citizen, you must use a different form.

Check they meet the requirements and learn about how to apply at: govt.nz/apply-for-nz-citizenship

Statement 2: Your child might not meet one of the requirements for New Zealand citizenship by grant under the Citizenship (Western Samoa) Act 1982.

However, they may be eligible for a grant of citizenship under the Citizenship Act 1977.

Read more about the requirements at: govt.nz/requirements-for-nz-citizenship

Statement 3: Your child probably meets the requirements for New Zealand citizenship by grant under the Citizenship (Western Samoa) Act 1982.

Apply using this form or online at: govt.nz/apply-for-nz-citizenship

Disclaimer

The questions above are based on the legal requirements for citizenship by grant. The result is only a general indicator to give you some idea of your child's eligibility. The questions do not form part of the formal assessment process.

A formal assessment of your child's ability to meet each relevant requirement will be carried out by the Department of Internal Affairs if you apply for citizenship for your child. The results of the questions above are not legal advice. For more information, read the rest of the guide notes on page 1 to page 4.

Checklist

Before you bring or send us your child's application, make sure you have everything you need.

You must provide original documents — not copies.

All original documents will be returned to you.

If you do not provide all the original documents that you need to, your child's application will be delayed.

If you are unable to give us these documents, you will need to explain why in a letter with your application.

What you need to send:

- ☐ your child's full birth certificate, or equivalent (must include details of both parents)
- ☐ all your child's current passports, travel documents or equivalent (or most recent if it has expired)
- ☐ both parents' passports
- ☐ 2 passport-style photos of your child that the witness has signed, dated and written your child's name on the back of 1 of the photos
- ☐ filled out payment details in question 31 on page 19 (application fee \$235.10 per child)

You might also need to send these documents:

- ☐ if your child does not have a Samoan passport, proof of your child's Samoan citizenship
- ☐ if your child's name has changed, your child's name change or adoption documents
- ☐ anything else we should know that might affect your child's application.

If your documents are not in English, you may also need:

- ☐ authorised translations of your documents (if your documents are not in English and you already have an authorised translation, provide the translation with the original document).

If you do not have an authorised translation, provide your original documents and we will arrange for them to be translated. There is no charge for this unless you require a copy of the translation for your own purposes. If you require a copy of the translation, download a T100 Request for translation form from [govt.nz/request for translation](http://govt.nz/request-for-translation) and include this with your application.

If you have already registered your child as a New Zealand citizen by descent and want to change their status to citizen by grant you need to bring in or send:

- ☐ your child's original New Zealand citizenship by descent certificate.

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How to answer this form:

- You can complete this form by hand or on-screen using Adobe Acrobat Reader.
- You can use the tab key to move to the next fillable form field in Adobe Acrobat Reader.
- You must still print off the application and sign by hand.
- When you see this icon  it means you need to take extra care with your answers.

Section 1: Applicant information

1. Your child's name

1a. Your child's current name

The name you provide will be on your citizenship certificate, and it must be your child's legal name. We will verify that your child is entitled to use this name.

First and middle names

Surname or family name (if your child has a single name, enter it here)

1b. Choose why your child uses this name: (tick one)

- ☐ This is my child's birth name ► Go to question 2.
- ☐ This is my child's name from a formal name change ► Continue to question 1c.
- ☐ This is my child's adoptive name ► Go to question 2.

1c. Details of formal name change

Country of event

Date of event (dd/mm/yyyy)

2. Your child's birth details as they appear on their birth document

Gender (female, male or non-binary)

Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)

Country of birth

Place of birth (smallest place of birth on birth document)

3. Which of these options best describes your child's situation? (tick one)

- ☐ My child is not a New Zealand citizen and would like to apply for New Zealand citizenship by grant under the Citizenship (Western Samoan) Act 1982 ► Go to question 5.
- ☐ My child has already registered as a New Zealand citizen by descent and wants to change their status to citizen by grant under the Citizenship (Western Samoan) Act 1982 ► Continue to question 4.

4. Your child's citizenship by descent certificate details

4a. Certificate details

First and middle names on your child's certificate

Surname or family name on your child's certificate

Certificate number

4b. How are you returning your child's certificate? (tick one)

You must return your child's descent certificate when you submit this application.

- ☐ I have included the certificate with this application.
- ☐ I have not included the certificate with this application for the reasons explained below.

Reason for not returning the original citizenship certificate (for example, it has been lost or stolen)

5. Your child's citizenship status and passport details

If your child does not have a Samoan passport, provide evidence of Samoan citizenship.

Country or countries that your child is a citizen of

Passport or travel document your child last used to enter NZ

Country this passport or travel document is from

6. Does your child have New Zealand residence?

You need to show your child entered New Zealand legally and has the right to be here indefinitely. This means your child has a current residence permit, permanent residence visa or residence visa issued by INZ, your child is an Australian citizen or permanent resident, or your child is a New Zealand citizen by descent.

☐ Yes

☐ No ► It is unlikely that your child will be granted New Zealand citizenship.

7. Has your child used any other names during their life?

☐ Yes ► Continue to question 8.

☐ No ► Go to question 9.

8. Other names

We need to know all the names your child has ever used during their life to verify their identity.

Provide proof of names they have used. For example, name change or adoption documents.

Enter the name your child used before their current name from question 1 on page 5. If your child has had more than 1 name change, send us this information on a separate piece of paper with your application form.

First and middle names

Surname or family name

Year your child last used this name

Why did your child use this name? (tick one)

☐ Adopted name

☐ Common use (name they were 'known as')

☐ Birth name

☐ Passport or travel document name

☐ Formally changed name

9. Parent details

Both parents or legal guardians need to include their passports with this application. Do not include step-parents, parents or guardians who do not have legal guardianship.

9a. Parent 1

First and middle names

Surname or family name

Country or countries they are a citizen of

9b. Parent 2

Leave this section blank if your child only has 1 parent on their birth record.

First and middle names

Surname or family name

Country or countries they are a citizen of

Section 2: Consent giver

10. Consent giver's residential address and contact details

Applicants aged 15 years and under need consent from their parents to apply for New Zealand citizenship. We require a consenting parent or legal guardian's details so we can contact them if we have any questions. Include at least 1 phone number. If these contact details change while the application is being processed, you must tell us. If the Citizenship Office cannot contact the consent giver because they have moved, are overseas or do not respond, the application will be presented to the Minister of Internal Affairs for a decision based on the information available.

Street number and name

Suburb

Town or city

State or province (if not New Zealand)

Postcode

Country

Mobile number

Landline number (if applicable)

Email address

11. Does the child live at the same address as the consent giver?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No ► Provide the child's address below.

Street number and name

Suburb

Town or city

State or province (if not New Zealand)

Postcode

Country

12. Where do you want us to send your child's documents, papers and letters?

- ☐ My residential address from question 10 ► Go to Section 3 on page 11.
- ☐ I will provide my postal address below in question 12a.
- ☐ I will give a nominated representative's postal address in question 14 ► Go to Section 3 on page 11.

12a. Consent giver's postal address (if different from residential address)

Street number and name

Suburb

Town or city

State or province (if not New Zealand)

Postcode

Country

Section 3: Nominate a representative

If you want someone else (and not the consent giver) to talk to us on your child's behalf, you need to provide us their name, postal address, contact number and email. We will only contact your child's representative and all your child's documents will be sent to them.

You can nominate any person aged 16 years or over. For example, a family member, a friend, or an immigration agent. We will only contact your nominated person.

13. Do you want us to talk to someone else on your child's behalf?

- ☐ Yes ► Continue to question 14.
- ☐ No ► Go to Section 4 on page 12.

14. Nominate someone to act on your child's behalf

14a. Details of person you nominate to act on your child's behalf

Organisation name (if applicable)

First and middle names

Surname or family name

Street number and name

Suburb

Town or city

State or province (if not New Zealand)

Postcode

Country

Contact phone number

Email address

14b. Consent giver's signature

I nominate the person named in question 14a to act on my child's behalf for this application.

Signature of consent giver (sign by hand)

Date signed (dd/mm/yyyy)

Section 4: Citizenship ceremony

15. Do you want your child to attend a citizenship ceremony?

To become a New Zealand citizen all applicants aged 14 years or over must attend a ceremony. Children aged 13 years or under can choose to attend a ceremony if they want to.

- ☐ Yes ► Continue to question 16.
- ☐ No ► Go to Section 5 on page 13.

16. Choose which statement your child will say

During the ceremony your child will read aloud a statement that says they will be loyal to New Zealand. The oath of allegiance is religious, taken on a holy book of their choice. The affirmation of allegiance is non-religious and does not include the words 'so help me God'. Choose the declaration your child wants to make.

- ☐ A religious statement with the words 'so help me God' — this is called an oath.
- ☐ A statement without the words 'so help me God' — this is called an affirmation.

17. What language will your child say the statement in?

- ☐ English.
- ☐ Te reo Māori.

18. If any of the child's family members are also applying for New Zealand citizenship, would you like your child to go to a ceremony with them?

- ☐ Yes ► Provide their full names below.
- ☐ No

Full names of family members also applying for citizenship

19. Does your child require any special assistance so they can attend an interview or citizenship ceremony?

This could include needing access for a wheelchair, or help if your child is hearing impaired.

- ☐ Yes ► Provide details below.
- ☐ No

Special assistance details

Section 5: Additional information

20. Is there anything else we should know that might affect your child's application?

For example:

- your child has ever used a different date of birth
- any matters that are unclear about your child's identity.

☐ Yes ► Provide details below.

☐ No

Additional information

Section 6: Parents' consent and declarations

Both parents or legal guardian(s) must read, complete and sign this section for the child.

If only 1 parent or legal guardian is consenting, this parent should have sole legal guardianship. This means that only 1 parent has a legal right of control over the child's upbringing. We require a court order that specifically refers to sole legal guardianship. A custody order on its own does not give sole legal guardianship over a child. If you are unsure, contact us.

Warning: It is an offence under the Citizenship Act 1977 and/or Citizenship (Western Samoa) Act 1982 to knowingly or recklessly give false information or conceal any facts for the purpose of gaining New Zealand citizenship for oneself or on behalf of someone else. If you do so, your child may be denied citizenship or lose citizenship once it is granted. You may also face criminal charges.

- I confirm that my child is a Samoan citizen.
- I understand this application and warning.
- The documents provided for this application are genuine and unaltered.
- I understand that becoming a New Zealand citizen may affect my child's present citizenship.
- I understand that if I do not provide sufficient information to enable a claim to New Zealand citizenship, my child's application may be declined.
- If there is any change in my child's circumstances that affects the answers given in this application, I will send written advice to the Department of Internal Affairs up until the point my child has received their citizenship certificate.
- I confirm that I have read and understood the guide notes.
- I authorise the release by any government agency of personal information about my child that may assist the Minister of Internal Affairs to decide whether my child qualifies for the grant of citizenship. I recognise that this information may be provided by agencies including, but not limited to: New Zealand Police, Inland Revenue, New Zealand Customs Service, Immigration New Zealand, Ministry of Social Development, Passport Office, Births, Deaths and Marriages Registry, Ministry of Justice.
- I authorise the Department of Internal Affairs to release my child's name and address to my child's local Member of Parliament and local councillors so they can formally welcome my child to New Zealand following their grant of citizenship.



21. Parent declaration and consent

The parent who filled in the application signs as 'Parent 1'.

Consent statement

This consent section has been filled out by me as a parent/legal guardian. I am aware that a grant of New Zealand citizenship may affect my child's present citizenship. If my child is ineligible under the Citizenship (Western Samoan) Act 1982, I give the Citizenship Office my permission to assess my child's eligibility under the Citizenship Act 1977, which includes giving authorisation to the Department of Internal Affairs to check my child's records.

21a. Parent/legal guardian 1 - signing declaration and consent

I declare that the information I have given in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, true, complete and correct.

First and middle names

Surname or family name

Relationship to child

Passport/travel document number

Country this passport/travel document is from

Parent/guardian 1 signature (sign by hand)

Date signed (dd/mm/yyyy)

21b. Parent/legal guardian 2 - signing declaration and consent

First and middle names

Surname or family name

Relationship to child

Passport/travel document number

Country this passport/travel document is from

Parent/guardian 2 signature (sign by hand)

Date signed (dd/mm/yyyy)

Section 7: Witness section

Witness instructions:

You (the witness) must fill in and sign page 16 to page 17 of this form.

The child's parents need to provide 2 identical photos of their child. On the back of one of the photos, you must:

- write the full name of the child
- sign your own name, and
- write the date you signed the photo.

You must:

- be aged 16 years or over
- not be related to the child or part of their extended family
- not live at the same address as the child
- have known the child for at least 1 year or since birth if they are less than 1 year old.

22. Your New Zealand passport number

Passport number

23. Number of years you have known the child

Years

24. Yourname

First and middle names

Surname or family name

25. Your date of birth

Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)

Privacy Act information

As a witness for this application, you are required to provide personal information. The decision to supply the information is voluntary. If you do not want to supply this information or authorise access to your personal information you cannot act as a witness. We need to collect your information to verify your identity and confirm you meet the criteria to act as a witness. The information you provide in this form is collected and held by: Department of Internal Affairs, PO Box 10680, Wellington, New Zealand. You have a right of access to and correction of personal information you have provided under the Information Privacy Principles of the Privacy Act 2020.

26. Your address and contact details

Street number and name

Suburb

Town or city

Postcode

State or province (if not New Zealand)

Country

Contact phone number

Email address



27. Witness declaration

I declare that:

- I am aged 16 years or over
- I have a New Zealand passport
- I have known the child for at least 1 year or since birth if the child is less than 1 year old
- the information I have given is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge
- the person in the photo is the person applying for citizenship
- I have written the full name of the child, signed my name and written the date on the back of one photo
- I understand that if I have provided false information, I can, by law, be fined or imprisoned.

Signature of witness (sign by hand)

Date signed (dd/mm/yyyy)

Office use only:

Do not staple,
glue or paperclip
photos to the
application as this
may cause damage.

Make sure 1 photo is
witnessed correctly
to avoid delays in
processing.

Section 8: Fees and payment

28. Are you making the payment for your child's application on this form? (tick one)

- ☐ Yes ► Continue to question 29.
- ☐ No, the payment is being made by another applicant ► Go to question 30.

29. Application fees

Enter quantity of applications you are paying for:

<input type="text"/>	Child applications	\$235.10
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30. Next steps

Complete payment details in question 31 on page 19, if you are making the payment for your child's application on this form.

Print and sign the form.

Send the form and any required documents to us.

Lodging your paper application

You can lodge your paper application by post or in person at one of our citizenship offices in Auckland, Wellington or Christchurch.

Apply by post

When you post your child's application, it is best to use a track and trace courier bag from New Zealand Post (in New Zealand) or registered mail (from overseas) to keep track of their original documents. We return their documents by courier within 4 to 6 weeks.

Postal address

Citizenship Office
Identity Services
Department of Internal Affairs
PO Box 10680
Wellington 6140

Courier address

The Citizenship Office
Level 2, 7 Waterloo Quay
Pipitea
Wellington 6011
New Zealand

Apply in person

If you want to apply in person, use the contact details on page 2 to book an appointment at one of our public counters. Opening hours for in person appointments are Monday to Friday, 9am to 5.30pm.

Auckland office

Carlaw Park
12-14 Nicholls Lane
Parnell
Auckland 1010

Wellington office

Level 2, 7 Waterloo Quay
Pipitea
Wellington 6011

Christchurch office

Level 1, BNZ Centre
120 Hereford Street
Christchurch

31. Payment

Do not post cash or card. Do not email credit card details.

Charge my credit or debit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Prezzy Card):

Card number

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Card expiry date

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Name on card

Cardholder’s signature

Fa'aaliga fesoasoani

O lenei fa'aaliga o le 'a fesoasoani lea ia te oe i le sauniuniga o pepa sa'o o lo'o mana'omia mo lau tusi apalai mo le sitiseni po'o le tagatanu'u.

O ulua'i pepa (originals) e tatau ona lafoina mai ma lau tusi apalai. Aua ne'i lafoina maia ni kopi o ulua'i pepa. O le a matou le taliaina ni kopi.

O pepa nei e tatau ona e lafoina mai ma lau tusi apalai:

- Pepa fanau
- Tusi Folau (o tusi folau uma e aofia ai le 5 tausaga ua mavae)

Afai ua suia lou igoa i so'o se mafua'aga lava, e tatau ona e lafo maia mea nei:

- Pepa Fa'aipoipo/Pepa o le Tatalaga o le Fa'aipoipoga
Afai ua suia lou igoa ona ua e fa'aipoipo fa'amolemole e lafo mai pepa fa'aipoipo po'o pepa e fa'amaonia ai ua tatala le fa'aipoipoga, mo au fa'aipoipoga uma na fai.
- Isi Pepa Fa'amonía o le Suiga o Lou Igoa (Fa'ata'ita'iga: Pepa Faamaonia mai le Resitara o lou Suafa Matai)
Afai ua suia lou igoa fa'aletulafono, fa'amolemole lafo mai tusi fa'amaonia o le suiga o lou igoa.
- Pepa o le vaetamanina
Afai na vaetamaina oe faaletulafono, e tatau ona e lafoina mai lou ulua'i pepa fanau, lou pepa fanau fou ma pepa o le vaetamaina.

Afai e le o ia te oe nei pepa fa'amaonia, e mafai ona e fa'afeso'ota'ia le:

Ofisa o le Lesitara o e Fananau, Maliliu, Fa'aipoipo ma Vaetamaina, Matagaluega o Faamasinoga

Tuatusi pusameli (postal address): PO Box 1151, Apia, Samoa

Talosaga i ai ina ia lafoina mai nei pepa ia te oe. E mafai fo'i ona e fa'afeso'ota'ia le tou konesula mo se fesoasoani:

Samoan High Commission to New Zealand

Tuatusi nofoaga (street address): 1A Wesley Road, Kelburn, Wellington 6012

Tuatusi pusameli (postal address): PO Box 1430, Wellington 6140

Telefoni: 04 472 0953

Imeli: info@samoa.org.nz

Fa'amolemole ia manatua o lenei lisi o pepa fa'amaonia e le o le lisi mulimuli lea. O le tagata o le a vaaia lau tusi apalai mo le sitiseni o le a logoina oe pe a toe mana'omia nisi o pepa fa'amaonia e toe lafoina mai i se taimi mulimuli pe talosagaina fo'i oe e te fa'atasi atu i se fa'atalatalanoaga (interview).

Mo nisi fa'amtalaga e uiga i le fa'atumuina o lau talosaga mo le sitiseni (tagatanu'u), pepa e talia ma le fa'aliliu upu fa'amolemole ia tagai va'ai i le ta'iala mo le fa'atumuina o tusi apalai i le govt.nz/citizenship pe asiasi ane fo'i i se tasi o a matou ofisa i (Aukilani, Ueligitone, Kalaiesetete).