

Consulate of Italy in Brisbane

How to apply for ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP by marriage

(1) Who can apply and what are the essential requirements?

Only the spouse of an Italian citizen who is resident in the states of Queensland and Northern Territory is eligible to apply. The applicant must have been married to an Italian citizen for at least 3 years (this is reduced to one and a half years when the Italian applicant and spouse have children together).

- The Italian spouse must be registered with AIRE and their file must be complete and updated. More details can be found in the [AIRE](#) section of our website.
- With effect from 4th December 2018, law no. 132, the applicant must possess an adequate knowledge of the Italian language (B1 level and above of CEFR - Common European Framework of Reference for Languages). The knowledge of the Italian language has to be certified either with a certificate (or diploma) issued by an Italian state school or recognized private school (scuola pubblica o paritaria) or with a certificate of Italian as a foreign language issued by an approved institute. Currently these institutions, belonging to the CLIQ system (Certificazione Lingua Italiana di Qualità), are: • Siena University for foreigners; • Perugia University for foreigners; • University of Roma Tre; • Dante Alighieri Society.
- The application cannot be submitted if the marriage has not first been registered in Italy. Applicants must first contact the competent Italian Town hall (in person, by post, email, or through a third party) to get an "Estratto per riassunto dell'atto di matrimonio" (summary of the marriage extract). Not to be confused with a simple marriage certificate, this document is issued in Italy and contains a unique code as proof of registration. ([Form to request it to the Italian Town hall](#)).

(2) What documents are required?

- Estratto per riassunto dell'atto di matrimonio. Applicant is to request this directly ([Form to request it to the Italian Town hall](#)).
- Photocopy of a valid passport;
- Full birth certificate, complete with parents' details, issued by the authorities of the country of birth and stamped with an "Apostille" or legalized (depending on the country). Applicants born in Australia can obtain a full birth certificate from the Registry Office and have it stamped with an Apostille by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Lastly, the English birth certificate has to be translated into Italian by a NAATI accredited translator (www.naati.com.au); for certificates in a language other than English, the translation also has to be endorsed by the local Italian Consulate in the country of origin of the document.
- National Criminal Record, for Australia this has to be requested to the AFP. A Criminal Record issued by the Police Authorities is required for each of the countries where the applicant has lived, with the exception of Italy. The certificates must cover the entire duration of the period in which the applicant has resided in a country, they must be legalized by an Apostille, and their validity is limited to 6 months from the date of issue. Applicants who have changed their surname after marriage must ensure that the police certificate refers to both surnames (maiden and married). Finally, the English certificate has to be translated into Italian by a NAATI accredited translator (www.naati.com.au); for certificates in a language other than English, the translation also has to be endorsed by the local Italian Consulate in the country of origin of the document. Please call us directly to verify any additional requirements in regards to Criminal Record certificates, e.g. for U.S. ones fingerprinting is also required.
- Italian language certificate (or diploma) issued by an Italian state school or recognized private school or Certificate of Italian as a foreign language issued by an approved institute (see above)
- Receipt of bank transfer of € 250 (two hundred fifty Euro) remitted to:
"Ministero dell'Interno D.L.C.I. – Cittadinanza - Via Cavour 6 - 00184 Roma ITALY"
Reference: "istanza di cittadinanza italiana per matrimonio Mr/Mrs XXX"

IBAN: IT54D076010320000000809020	BIC / SWIFT code: BPPIITRRXXX
Name of the bank: Poste Italiane	Address: Viale Europa 175 – Roma (Italia)

(3) Procedures and timeframes

1. Since 1st August 2015, Italian Consulates no longer deal directly with citizenship through marriage applications (art. 5 of Law no.91/1992). Applicants are since then required to submit their applications ONLINE, via this link <https://cittadinanza.dlci.interno.it>. At the time of creating one's account, please remember to use the name as it appears on the birth certificate, regardless of what is shown on other documents (passport, driving license, etc.).
2. After registration and validation of your email address, log back into the site with your credentials.
3. On the left hand side of the screen, the "**CITTADINANZA** (CITIZENSHIP)" section contains:
"**COMPILA E INVIA LA DOMANDA** (FILL IN AND SEND APPLICATION)" to submit the application for citizenship.
"**VISUALIZZA STATO DELLA DOMANDA** (SHOW PROGRESS OF APPLICATION)" to periodically check the progress.

"PRIMO ACCESSO ALLA DOMANDA (FIRST ACCESS TO THE APPLICATION)," to check the application after submitting.

"COMUNICAZIONI (COMMUNICATION)", where administration messages appear, relating to the submitted application.

4. Carefully fill in all the fields on the form "AE" or "Modello AE - Cittadini Stranieri residenti all'Estero - Art.5 - richiesta per matrimonio con cittadino italiano" and upload all documents listed in the previous section (2). Make sure Originals

5. Applications may be SAVED, MODIFIED, CANCELLED and eventually SENT for Consular pre-screening. Once sent, the application cannot be changed.

6. Once the application has been submitted, print out the form by clicking on the icon "PDF".

7. After an initial review of the application the Consulate may (a) accept it, (b) request additional documentation / corrections, or (c) reject it, if it contains typos and/or if the accompanying documentation is wrong and cannot be rectified. If the application is rejected, the applicant will be contacted by the Consulate to rectify the application and lodge it once again.

8. Subsequently, the applicant will be contacted by the Consulate and asked to bring the originals of all documents previously uploaded on to the Ministero dell'Interno portal, together with a print out of the form "AE". Additional documents will need to be signed and the Italian spouse shall also be present.

(4) ESSENTIAL NOTES FOR PROPER COMPLETION OF THE APPLICATION AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1 ► The Interior Ministry's website is only in Italian. Applicants who do not feel confident to proceed independently are strongly advised to be assisted by someone who is an Italian native speaker in order to fill in the form correctly and avoid mistakes that would lead to the refusal of an application.

2 ► All details included in the application (name, surname, date and place of birth) must be exactly the same as those listed on the birth certificate or change of name / surname certificate. For example:

i. If on the birth certificate the applicant appears as LOCKSMITH Archibald Ferguson, born in Sandringham April 13 1975, but on his passport he appears as LOCHSMITH Fergy, born in Melbourne 13 April 1975, in this case, the applicant must fill out the fields with the spelling of the SURNAME, NAMES, BIRTHDATE and BIRTHPLACE exactly as they are on the birth certificate, and not as they appear on the passport.

ii. If the applicant's name or surname has changed, the applicant must also provide the relevant certificate, with "apostille" and an official translation into Italian.

3 ► We strongly advise against the use of taking photos of documents. You will need to use a scanner and scan all documents carefully, including, in the case of certificates (1) the original document, (2) the "apostille" affixed to the back or on a separate sheet and (3) the translation of the document.

4 ► All documents must be in original and will not be returned. The documents handed in to the Consulate will be sent electronically to the Central Citizenship Office in Rome, which is required by law to either approve or rule against the citizenship within 4 years of the formal submission of the application.

5 ► Birth certificates and National Police Clearance certificates issued outside Australia must be stamped with an "apostille" from the issuing country, or legalised by the Italian Consulate in the country where the certificate was issued. If the certificates have been issued outside Australia and they are not in English, the Italian translation must be legalised by the Italian Consulate in the country where the certificate was issued.

6 ► Section no. 6 [of the Applicant Data (5/5)] is reserved for applicants who are stateless, i.e. who do not have the nationality of any country. If this application is completed by applicants who have any citizenship, the application will be rejected.

7 ► The online form accepts up to 5 addresses of residence. Applicants who have changed address several times are advised to use the available space, while making sure to fill in all residence details from 14 years old to the day of presentation.

8 ► in Australia, the Apostille can be obtained from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade - DFAT (see <http://smartraveller.gov.au/services/legalising-documents/pages/default.aspx> for further information). Since 1 July 2015, the majority of Australian consulates and embassies can affix Apostilles onto original documents issued by the Australian government.

9 ► To get an official translation into Italian for an English document, a list of qualified translators is available on the website of NAATI, the Australian Association of Translators and Interpreters (www.naati.com.au).

10 ► The Consulate cannot reply to requests for information about the process of applying or give updates of applications already made, as the entire procedure is adequately explained, including procedures for monitoring the status of progress of applications .

11 ► If the Consulate accepts the application you have submitted online, you must personally come to the Consulate to submit all original documents and a print out of the form "AE" within 30 days of the date that you receive your email of acceptance.

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