



Consolato d'Italia  
Brisbane

## Italian citizenship by marriage or civil union

**ATTENTION:** The Consulate of Italy in Brisbane is competent to receive applications for citizenship by marriage only from people resident in Queensland or the Northern Territory.

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## 1. Legislation

*In accordance with current legislation, which requires knowledge of the Italian language, information relating to citizenship by marriage is provided in Italian.*

*Those who apply for Italian citizenship through marriage or civil union must be aware of their duties towards the Italian Republic, especially the adherence to national values and irreproachable conduct.*

The acquisition of Italian citizenship by a foreign or stateless spouse who has married an Italian citizen since the 27<sup>th</sup> April 1983, is currently regulated by Law n. 91 of the 5<sup>th</sup> February 1992 (articles 5, 6, 7 and 8) and subsequent amendments.

Applications for Italian citizenship can also be submitted by foreign citizens who have entered into a civil partnership with an Italian citizen, duly registered in the Registers of Civil Status of the Italian municipality (Legislative Decree 5, 6 and 7/2017).

A foreign spouse/civil union partner may acquire Italian citizenship upon application, provided they satisfy the legal requirements, as outlined below, as explained in the following sections.

Regulatory references:

- Law n. 123/1983
- Law n. 91/1992 and Presidential Decree n. 572/1993 and n. 362/1994
- Law n. 94/2009
- Law n. 76/2016 and Legislative Decree no. 5, 6 and 7/2017
- D.L. n. 113/2018 and Law no. 132/2018
- D.L. n. 130 / 2020 and Law n. 173/2020



## 2. Requirements for the citizenship application

- **Residence in the consular district:**
  - The applicant must address the application to the diplomatic/consular mission covering their area of residence, exclusively through the specific online application (see below: Point 4, Procedure, Phase 1 – Registration and application submission).
  - The Italian spouse/partner of the civil union must be resident and regularly registered in the Registry of Italians Resident Abroad (AIRE) of the competent consular district, and living at the same address as the applicant for citizenship. Conversely, both spouses must provide documentation proving the reason (e.g. work, children's education, medical care or other) which determines or has determined the need for separate domicile.
- **Submission Terms :**
  - The application can be submitted three years after the celebration of the marriage/civil union, if the spouse is an Italian citizen *iure sanguinis*, that is, from birth. If the Italian spouse acquired citizenship after the marriage (e.g. by residence in Italy), the three years start from the date of the spouse's naturalization. The three years are reduced to one and a half years in the presence of children born or adopted by the spouses.
- **Transcription and validity of marriage/civil union :**
  - If it occurred abroad, it must have been previously registered at a Municipality in Italy.
  - The marriage/civil union bond must remain valid and stable until the granting of citizenship. In order to grant Italian citizenship, the marriage/civil union must not have been dissolved by separation or divorce at the date of adoption of the decree. However, the death of the spouse after the submission of the citizenship application does not forfeit the application.
- **Criminal history:**
  - Absence of convicting sentences by the Italian judicial authorities for offences that carry a sentence of more than three years' imprisonment;
  - Absence of convicting sentences by the foreign judicial authorities that carry a sentence of more than one year for non-political offences.
  - Absence of convictions for offences against the State;
  - Absence of impediments for the security of the Italian Republic;
- **Knowledge of the Italian language no lower than level B1 of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR)**
- **Payment of taxes and charges indicated in the Fees sections**



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### 3. Documents required for the citizenship application

- **Original Birth certificate** or equivalent, when possible issued no later than six months prior the application, by the country in which the applicant was born, complete with all personal details (including paternity and maternity), duly legalized/ apostilled and translated into Italian. In regard to Australian birth certificates, the applicant must present an original birth certificate issued by the [Queensland Registry of Death, Birth and Marriages](#) or the [Northern Territory Registry of Birth, Death and Marriages](#) completed with the [apostille](#), together with the translation done by a NAATI Translator.  
**NB: If the conformity of the translation has not already been declared by the sworn translator, the applicant must present himself at the competent Consulate to complete the document BEFORE submitting the application via the Portal.**
- **Criminal record** from the country of origin, any additional country of residence (from the age of 14) – except Italy – and of the countries of which the applicant is a citizen, in original, issued no more than six months prior the submission of the application, duly legalized/ apostilled and translated into Italian.  
The applicant is exempt from presenting the criminal record of the country of origin only if he left it before the age of 14 and has not retained its citizenship.
- For Australian criminal records, the applicant will need to present a [National Police Certificate](#) issued by the Australian Federal Police (certificates issued by private companies are not accepted), [apostilled](#) and [translated](#) by a NAATI Translator.
- **Receipt of payment of €250** to the Ministero dell'Interno and the €16 stamp duty, following the procedure described in the “Fees” section.
- **Identity document:** photocopy of passport or valid foreign identity card (of the pages with personal details, photograph, date of issue and expiry date).
- **Copy of the marriage certificate or “estratto per riassunto del registro dei matrimoni”**, to be requested from the competent Italian Municipality where the marriage is registered, when possible issued no more than six months prior to the application date.  
PLEASE NOTE: if the applicant is a EU citizen, he/she can make a self-certification as per Presidential Decree 445/2000.
- **Certificate of knowledge of the Italian language** at least at level B1 of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR). Only the following certifications are accepted:
  - PLIDA from the Dante Alighieri Society
  - CertIt from the University of Roma Tre
  - CILS from the Università per stranieri di Siena
  - CELI from the Università per stranieri di Perugia
  - Ce.Co.L from the Università per stranieri di Reggio Calabria

Certifications from different/other institutions are not suitable and cannot be accepted.



  
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However, the following are not required to present a qualification demonstrating knowledge of the Italian language:

- Foreign nationals (even though they are resident abroad) who have signed the “integration agreement” as per art. 4 bis of Legislative Decree no. 286/1998 *Testo Unico Immigrazione* (Immigration Consolidated Law)
- Holders of a EU (or EC) residence permit for long-term residents as per Art. 9 of the abovementioned Consolidate Law (even if resident abroad), only if issued by the Italian Authorities. Residence permits for family reasons or those issued by other States are not eligible.
- Those who have obtained a qualification issued by a public or private educational institution recognised by the Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca and/or by the *Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione internazionale*.



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## 4. Procedure

### PHASE 1 – REGISTRATION AND APPLICATION SUBMISSION

**The applicant residing abroad must register on the Ministero dell'Interno portal (<https://portaleservizi.dlci.interno.it/AliCittadinanza/ali/home.htm>) without using SPID but with his/her own e-mail address.**

Please note that the email address declared on the portal when submitting the online application is considered to be the chosen contact address (art. 47 of Civil Code); it is therefore necessary that the applicant checks their email regularly, because all communications relating to their citizenship application, including requests for additional documents, appointments, notification of documents etc., will **ONLY** be sent electronically.

**The applicant is required to register his/her data with the utmost care, as these cannot be modified and, in the event of an error, a new registration will be required with a different email address.** The applicant will need to use the details indicated in the birth certificate (including any annotations) and/or in certificates and documents issued abroad by the competent foreign authorities (such as marriage certificates, identity documents, name/surname change orders, etc.). In the event of discrepancies, the applicant is required to provide appropriate supporting documentation.

The application must state whether the applicant has any minor children from a previous relationship living at the same address.

All places of residence from the age of 14 must be declared, and no periods of time must be left out.

No special characters or symbols should be used (for example the cedilla, acute or grave accents within the word, circumflex accents, etc.). It will be possible to mark only the accent on the last letter of the word, using the apostrophe, if it is also present in the original language.

### PHASE 2 – CONSULAR VERIFICATION

The Consular Office will be automatically informed of the submission of the application and will proceed with the necessary checks. The applicant will then receive, electronically via the portal of the Ministero dell'Interno, a communication regarding the acceptance or rejection of his/her application.

In case of rejection of the application, the application can be resubmitted, with the corrections of the errors indicated in the rejection notice itself. The payments can also be reused, if the application is resubmitted within one year.

In case of acceptance, the applicant will be summoned electronically to the diplomatic/consular representation for the authentication of the signature on the citizenship application, for the submission of all the original documentation, including the one already submitted electronically via the Portal, and for the collection of the expected consular fees.

All the above mentioned documentation will be kept in original by the diplomatic/consular representation, with the exception of IDs and the language certificate, for which a certified copy will be made (consular fees may apply).



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### PHASE 3 – EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT BY THE MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO

The evaluation of the application and the outcome of the procedure are the exclusive responsibility of the Ministero dell'Interno, within 24 months from the date of submission of the application, extendable up to a maximum of 36 months. In the event of a positive outcome, the Ministero dell'Interno will send the decree of conferral of Italian citizenship to the diplomatic/consular representation of competence where the applicant resides.

### PHASE 4 – DECREE, NOTIFICATION AND OATH

The decree granting Italian citizenship will be notified – via the portal – with a communication addressed to the applicant. Upon notification, documents will also be requested to verify the validity of the marital bond, with a date subsequent to the decree, such as, for example (non-exhaustive list):

- Full marriage certificate issued by the competent Italian municipality (not the extract) and corresponding foreign document
- Criminal record certificate from the country of current residence, duly legalized and translated (see “Documents” section)

Therefore, at the date of adoption of the decree, the dissolution of the marriage or civil union or personal separation (separation decree) must not have occurred. However, the death of the spouse after the submission of the citizenship application does not affect the entitlement.

Within six months from the notification, the interested party will be summoned to the consular office, to swear an oath of allegiance to the Republic and its laws. The six-month term is mandatory, after which the application will expire.

Payment of the stamp duty on the decree is required.

The full marriage certificate must be requested from the Italian Municipality where it is registered; the criminal record certificate must be requested from the competent Authorities in the country of residence and must comply with the provisions regarding legalization/ apostille and translation, as explained in the “Documents” section.

The interested person will swear an oath of allegiance to the Italian Republic by pronouncing the following words:

*“GIURO DI ESSERE FEDELE ALLA REPUBBLICA E DI OSSERVARE LA COSTITUZIONE E LE LEGGI DELLO STATO”*  
(“I SWEAR TO BE FAITHFUL TO THE REPUBLIC AND TO OBSERVE THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS OF THE STATE”)

The acquisition of Italian citizenship will take effect from the day following the oath.

The original birth certificate will be sent for registration to the relevant Italian Municipality together with the request for registration in AIRE and the record of the oath taken.



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## 5. Fees

- Payment of €250 to the Ministry of the Interior, to be paid exclusively via PagoPa when completing the application or via bank transfer to the bank account indicated by the Ministry of the Interior (receipt to be included in the online application) with any costs to be paid by the person arranging the transfer:  
"Ministry of the Interior DLCI Citizenship"  
**Bank Name:** Poste Italiane SpA  
**IBAN Code:** IT54D0760103200000000809020  
**Reason for payment:** Request for citizenship by marriage pursuant to art. 5 L. 91/1992 and name and surname of the applicant  
**Poste Italiane BIC/SWIFT Code:** BPPIITRRXXX (for foreign transfers)  
**BIC/SWIFT code:** PIBPITRA (for EUROGIRO circuit operations)
- €16 stamp duty to be paid exclusively via PagoPa to the Revenue Agency when filling out the application or via adhesive sticker purchased in Italy or via bank transfer to the bank account of the Bank of Italy, IBAN code: IT07Y0100003245348008120501, with any costs to be borne by the person remitting the transfer.
- Consular fees payable:
  - Authentication of signature on the application: art. 24;
  - Stamp duty on the application: art. NAA
  - Certified copy of valid Identity document: art 71. (Should the document not be in Latin characters you also need to submit a translation)
  - Certified copy of the language certification: art. 71
  - Certification that the translation of civil status acts and of criminal record certificates complies with its original: art 72
  - Stamp duty on the citizenship decree: art NAA

## 6. Useful contacts and links

Find your Consulate:

<https://serviziconsolarionline.esteri.it/ScoFE/services/consulate/find-consulate.sco>

Lodge your application to the Ministry of the Interior:

<https://portaleservizi.dlci.interno.it/AluCittadinanza/ali/home.htm>

Website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation:

<https://www.esteri.it/it/servizi-consolari-e-visti/italiani-all'estero/cittadinanza/cittadinanza-per-matrimonio-e-Unione-civile/>

*Citizenship Office of the Consulate of Italy in Brisbane:* [brisbane.cittadinanza@esteri.it](mailto:brisbane.cittadinanza@esteri.it)