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Naturalization as a Citizen of Ghana

This guide explains the requirements for applying for Ghanaian citizenship by naturalization and provides examples for each document. Applicants must generally reside in Ghana for at least five (5) years before applying.

What is Naturalization?

Naturalization is the legal process through which a foreign national becomes a citizen of Ghana after living in the country for a required period of time, proving good character, and demonstrating integration into Ghanaian society. Unlike citizenship by marriage or descent, naturalization is based primarily on long-term residence (usually at least five years), knowledge of a Ghanaian language, and a commitment to making Ghana your permanent home.

Official information is also available at the Ministry of the Interior website:

https://www.mint.gov.gh/services/registrationnaturalization-as-citizen-of-ghana/

Required Documents & Explanations

1. Application Form (Form 5)

- This is the official government form for applying for citizenship by naturalization.
- Not available online must be purchased in person at the Ministry of the Interior in Accra.
- Fee: GH¢7,758. (\$750.00 USD)
- Location: Google Maps Ministry of the Interior, Accra: https://maps.app.goo.gl/eoQ2RE43QrspWCFP8

2. Copy of Passport (Bio-Data Page)

The page of your passport with your photo, name, date of birth, and nationality.

• Example: The first page of a U.S. passport.

3. Current Residence Permit (valid and continuous for at least 5 years)

- Proof of continuous legal stay in Ghana.
- Example: Residence permit stamp(s) in your passport showing uninterrupted status.

4. Police Clearance Certificates

- Police clearance from the Ghana Police Service.
- Police clearance from your country of origin.

5. Proof of Good Character

• In addition to police reports, you may be asked to provide references or endorsements from reputable persons in Ghana (e.g., community leaders, employers).

6. Proof of Integration

- Evidence that you can speak and understand a Ghanaian language (e.g., Twi, Ga, Ewe).
- May be assessed during the application process or interview.

7. Application Letter to the Minister

- A formal cover letter requesting naturalization.
- Address to:

Hon. Minister

Ministry of the Interior

P.O. BOX M42, Accra, Ghana

8. Passport-Sized Photos

• Four (4) identical color photos, recent, white background, no hats or glasses.

9. Additional Supporting Documents

- Birth certificate.
- Proof of residence or employment in Ghana (utility bills, tenancy agreements, employer's letter).
- Tax clearance certificate (if applicable).

Time Frame

Processing takes about twelve (12) months once all documents are submitted.

Fees & Charges

Application Form 5 – GH¢7,758 (paid when purchasing the form at the Ministry of the Interior in Accra).

Contact & Location

Ministry of the Interior

P.O. BOX M42, Accra, Ghana

Website: https://www.mint.gov.gh

Google Maps: https://maps.app.goo.gl/eoQ2RE43QrspWCFP8

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