



GHANA CITIZENSHIP

8/25/25

Right of Abode in Ghana

What is the Right of Abode?

The Right of Abode is a legal status that lets eligible people live in Ghana **indefinitely, enter without a visa, and work without a work permit**. It's granted by the Minister (with Presidential approval) to (1) Ghanaians who lost citizenship after acquiring another nationality, and (2) **persons of African descent in the Diaspora**. Benefits are set out in Sections 17–18 of the Immigration Act, 2000 (Act 573).

Official pages:

- Ghana Immigration Service – Right of Abode: <https://gis.gov.gh/service/right-of-abode/> (gis.gov.gh)
- Ministry of the Interior – Right of Abode: <https://www.mint.gov.gh/services/right-of-abode/> ([Ghana Interior Ministry](#))
- Immigration Act, 2000 (Act 573) – Sections 17–19:
<https://ghalii.org/akn/gh/act/2000/573/eng%402000-02-11/source.pdf>

Required Documents & Explanations

Important: Application forms are **not published online**; you complete the prescribed form and submit through the **Ghana Immigration Service (GIS)**. The Ministry's page confirms you apply to the Minister and GIS conducts due diligence. ([Ghana Interior Ministry](#))

A. If you are a Ghanaian who lost citizenship (now using a foreign passport)
(“Ghanaian descents” in GIS wording)

1. **Completed application form** – obtained and filed at GIS. (gis.gov.gh)
2. **Two (2) passport-size photos** – recent, identical. (gis.gov.gh)
3. **Letter of application** – from you or your sponsor, requesting Right of Abode. (gis.gov.gh)
4. **Attestation by two Ghanaians of standing** – Notaries Public, Lawyers, or Senior public officers, with copies of their Ghana ID cards. (gis.gov.gh)
5. **Passport copies** – your **bio-data page** and **current Ghana residence permit** page (if any). (gis.gov.gh)
6. **Evidence of immovable property (if applicable)** – e.g., indenture, site plan. (gis.gov.gh)
7. **Renunciation certificate** – *as listed by GIS; bring any renunciation evidence relevant to your case.* (GIS requirement list includes “Renunciation certificate”). (gis.gov.gh)
8. **Autobiography** – brief personal profile/history. (gis.gov.gh)
9. **Birth certificate** – to evidence Ghanaian origin. (gis.gov.gh)
10. **Ghana Police Clearance** – current report. (gis.gov.gh)
11. **Non-Citizen Ghana Card** – copy of your valid card. (gis.gov.gh)

B. If you are a person of African descent in the Diaspora (e.g., African-American)

1. **Completed application form** – obtained and filed at GIS. (gis.gov.gh)
2. **Application letter** – from you or your sponsoring company/organization. (gis.gov.gh)
3. **Attestation letters from two Ghanaians of repute** – Notaries/Lawyers/Senior public officers, with Ghana ID copies. (gis.gov.gh)
4. **Evidence of contribution to Ghana’s development** – e.g., monetary value of shares, bank statements, audited accounts, or proof of employing Ghanaians. (*This speaks to Act 573 s.17(3)(d): ability to make a substantial contribution.*) (gis.gov.gh)
5. **Current Ghana Police Report** – required. (gis.gov.gh)
6. **Non-Citizen Ghana Card (copy)** – required. (gis.gov.gh)

7. **Company documents (if applying via a company)** – Companies Code registration, audited accounts (last 3 years), SSNIT returns for Ghanaian employees, and **Tax Clearance Certificates** (personal & company) for the last 6 years. (gis.gov.gh)
8. **Medical Report** – from the **Ghana Immigration Service Clinic**. (gis.gov.gh)

Legal criteria for Diaspora applicants (Act 573, s.17(3)):

good character (attested by two Ghanaians), no 12-month+ criminal sentence, independent means, capacity to make a substantial contribution to Ghana's development, and **at least 18 years of age**.

Time Frame

About six (6) months after GIS submits its due-diligence report to the Ministry (per the Ministry's official service page). Actual duration varies by case. ([Ghana Interior Ministry](#))

Fees & Charges

The GIS **Fees & Charges** schedule lists **Right of Abode** (historic schedule shows: **GH¢1,940** (\$200.00 USD) for "Ghanaians with foreign passport" and **GH¢3,879** (\$400.00 USD) for "Other Nationals"). **Fees are subject to change; confirm current amounts at GIS before payment.** (gis.gov.gh)

Official fee page: <https://gis.gov.gh/fees-and-charges/> (see embedded schedule). (gis.gov.gh)

Contact & Location

Where to submit / inquire:

Ghana Immigration Service (Headquarters) – Ridge, Accra (Right of Abode is a GIS-administered service; applications are processed by GIS with Ministerial approval). (gis.gov.gh)

Website: <https://gis.gov.gh/> (gis.gov.gh)

Right of Abode page: <https://gis.gov.gh/service/right-of-abode/> (gis.gov.gh)

General enquiries (Support): +233 302 224 445 (gis.gov.gh)

Front desk (HQ): +233 302 213 401 (gis.gov.gh)

E-mail: info@immigration.gov.gh (gis.gov.gh)

Postal: Ghana Immigration Service, P.O. Box 129, Accra, Ghana. (gis.gov.gh)

Google Maps: <https://share.google/Ef1NtikGzLecPes4p>

Notes to include on your page/PDF

- **Forms** are not downloadable; obtain and file at **GIS HQ** or the designated GIS office handling Right of Abode. (gis.gov.gh, [Ghana Interior Ministry](#))
 - The status is **not the same as citizenship**; it grants indefinite residence, visa-free entry, and the right to work **without a work permit** (Act 573 s.18).
 - Requirements can vary case-by-case; GIS may request **additional evidence**.
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