

Not less than 2 nor more than 7 years after the date the original of this declaration was made, and after you have lived in the United States for at least 5 years and in the State for at least 6 months, you may file a petition for naturalization (or second papers). You will not be notified by the Government or the clerk of court to file such petition. It will be necessary for you to make application, in person or by letter, to the nearest clerk of court exercising naturalization jurisdiction, or to a representative of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, for an application Form N-400. You should not wait to do this until near the close of the 7-year period, because if you do not file your petition with the court before the end of this 7-year period it will be necessary for you to file a new declaration of intention and wait at least another 2 years thereafter before you can file your petition for naturalization. However, a petitioner for naturalization who is married to a citizen of the United States is not required to make a declaration of intention as a basis for filing a petition for naturalization.

Applicants for naturalization, before being granted citizenship, must satisfy the judge of the naturalization court that they believe in the principles of the Constitution of the United States. The Immigration and Naturalization Service has prepared a citizenship textbook about the Constitution and Government of the United States which may be used by persons who have declared their intention to become citizens and who attend citizenship classes in the public schools. This book and the classes will help applicants to prepare themselves for the duties and responsibilities of American citizenship.