

Child Born Abroad to Two U.S. Citizens

A child born outside of the United States or its outlying possessions to parents, both of whom are citizens of the United States, is entitled to citizenship provided one of the parents had, prior to the birth of the child, been resident in the United States or one of its outlying possessions. (No specific period of time is required.)

How Does My Child Become a U.S. Citizen?

In order for your child to become a citizen, you must submit the following documents to the U.S. Embassy or consulate in Japan to receive a Consular Report of Birth Abroad (For U.S. military personnel and their dependents, this report is filed through the Military Personnel Office, tel: 263-3008):

- Form DS-2029, Application for a Consular Report of Birth, along with the fee (US\$65).
- Proof of U.S. citizenship for you and your spouse. This can be your birth certificate, citizenship or naturalization certificate, a consular report of birth, or a valid or expired passport (issued within the last 15 years).
- Proof of your child's birth. The preferred document is the Japanese *Shusshou Todoke Kisai Jiko Shomeisho*, issued by the ward or city office. The *Shusshou Todoke Juri Shomeisho* and *Koseki Tohon* are only accepted if they include the child's and parents' full names, the date and place of birth and the seal of the ward or city official who certified the document. The birth certificate issued by the Japanese hospital is not acceptable. English-language birth records/documents are only accepted when issued by the U.S. military hospital in Japan where the baby was actually delivered.
- Proof of your marriage, i.e. marriage certificate.
- If you or your spouse have been married previously, you need to bring proof of termination of your previous marriages, such as divorce or death certificates.

All birth, adoption, marriage, death or divorce certificates must bear the original seal, stamp or signature of the Official Custodian of the document. Notarized copies, church records and uncertified photocopies are not official documents and may be invalid as primary evidence. All documents must be originals; the Embassy usually returns original document to you the same day. All documents not in English must be translated; you may do the translation yourself.

Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

I Corps (Fwd) and U.S. Army Japan

If your child has one Japanese parent, the birth records may only list a Japanese name for your child. If you want your child's documents to be issued in an American name, you can fill out an Affidavit of the Newborn Child's Name and sign it at the Embassy or consular office.

For more information, contact the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, at:

1-10-5 Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-8420 JAPAN

U.S. mail address: APO AP 96337-5004 USA

(03) 3224-5000 (general switchboard)

(03) 5354-4033 (visa information)

<http://tokyo.usembassy.gov>

Child Born Abroad to Two U.S. Citizens is distributed by the Camp Zama Legal Assistance Office, located in Building 101, Room CE209. Our office hours are 0830 to 1630 Monday through Wednesday and Friday. On Thursday, our hours are 0830 to 1500. You may call for an appointment at DSN 263-4698/commercial 046-407-4698.