

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL CATEGORIES:
PLEASE READ VERY CAREFULLY

All certificates must be in "**CERTIFIED COPY**" a.k.a. "**LONG FORM**" or "**FULL FORM**" OR "**BOOK COPY**" (**not "abstract"**). If the marriage's certificates lacks information such as dates and places of birth, you must also obtain a certified copy of the **marriage application/licenses**.

These certificates may be obtained from the [Office of Vital Statistics](#) of the County or of the State in which the birth/marriage/death took place.

Certificates reporting only the "County" of birth will not be accepted. You must request that the Vital Statistics Authority state the **CITY OR TOWN OF BIRTH**.

APOSTILLE : U.S. Birth/Marriage/Death records **related to the "Italian side"** (starting with your ancestor and ending with you, and including any Italian born spouses) **must bear an "APOSTILLE" of the Secretary of State** of the State in which the document was issued, (except for the Certificate of Naturalization and/or similar documentation). **Please note** that you do not need death certificates for people who were not born in Italy.

THE APOSTILLE is a legalization provided by the Office of the [Secretary of State of the State](#) where the document/certificate is issued (**Please note: it is not a stamp on the certificate. It is a Legalization, a document stapled to the birth/marriage/death certificate by the Secretary of State**). [Click here to see a list of State Offices where to require the Apostille](#)

- 1) **If you have minor children (under the age of 18)** you must also submit a certified copy of their birth certificate/s, with the "[Apostille](#)" of the Secretary of State. In this case you must submit a certified copy of your marriage certificate with "[Apostille](#)", and copy of your spouse's birth certificate. If your marriage certificate lacks information such as dates and places of birth, you must also obtain a certified copy of the **marriage application/license**.
- 2) If you have adult children who want to be recognized as Italians, you cannot apply for them.
- 3) **Vital Records in languages other than Italian**, birth, marriage, death certificates **relating to the Italian side**, marriage, birth relating to "intermediate" ancestors who are not applying for citizenship **must be professionally translated into Italian**. Documents that **do not** need to be translated are **those relating to the "non-Italian" side** and the **U.S. Certificate of Naturalization or any statement releasing information on the naturalization status of the ancestor**.
- 4) **Documents issued in Countries other than the U.S.A. or Italy** must comply with the local regulations on the legalization of documents, they must be translated into Italian and the translation certified by the Italian Consulate/Embassy in the Country where the document was issued. To find out how a document should be legalized in its Country of origin you must obtain **the information in the website** of the competent Italian Consulate/Embassy. A list of all Italian Consulate/Embassies abroad is available at www.esteri.it ("Farnesina" - "Rappresentanze Diplomatiche" - "Ambasciate e Consolati" – Country)
- 5) **DISCREPANCIES:**
Check all documents **word for word** to make sure that there are no discrepancies or changes in the names, last names, dates and places of birth. If there are major discrepancies in last names, dates, ages, and places of birth these variations or errors must be corrected with an official "**affidavit to amend a record**" to be requested from the Vital Statistics Office that issued the document or with another appropriate official document.

ALL THE DOCUMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN ORIGINAL