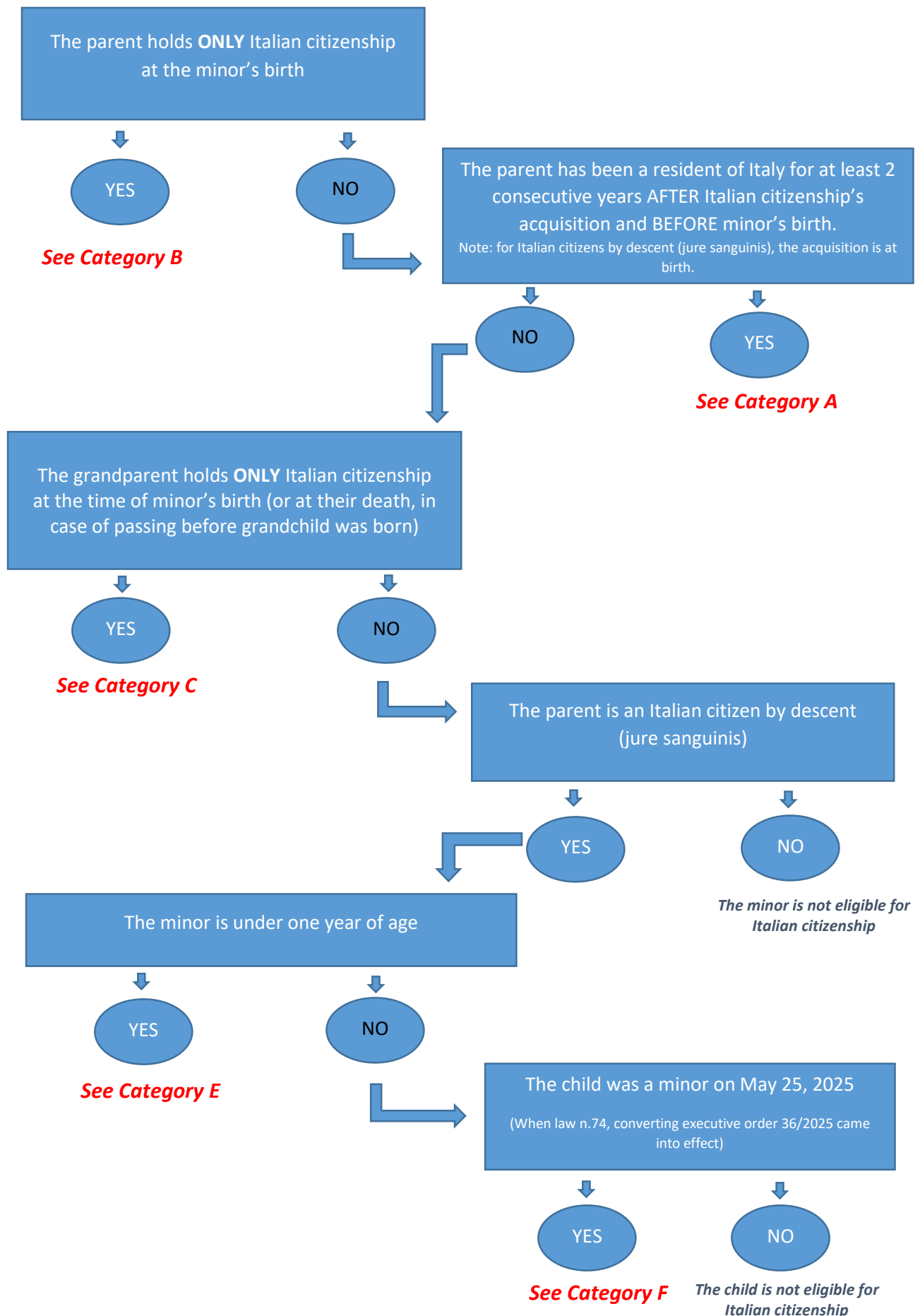


## BIRTH REGISTRATION OF A MINOR, CHILD OF AN ITALIAN CITIZEN



## Registration of birth certificates for minors who are children of Italian citizens

Law No. 74 of 23 May 2025, converting Decree Law No. 36 of 28 March, introduced new provisions on citizenship, with effects on requests for registration of birth certificates received by the Consulate General after the new legislation came into force (i.e. from 28 March 2025 onwards).

On the assumption that applications for the registration of a birth certificate involve verification of the child's citizenship, the new legislation differentiates between the rules to be applied in cases where the child can be recognised as a citizen at birth (citizenship *iure sanguinis*) and those where Italian citizenship may be acquired by benefit of law (“beneficio di legge”).

The provisions and requirements applicable to the two cases are described below.

### Registration of birth certificate with recognition of Italian citizenship from birth (citizenship *iure sanguinis*)

#### Conditions for registering a birth certificate

**A minor born abroad to an Italian parent is not automatically an Italian citizen**, unless at least one of the following conditions applies:

#### **CASE A**

The parent, who is an Italian citizen by birth and also holds another citizenship, has resided in Italy for at least 2 consecutive years at any time prior to the date of birth of the child;

**or**

The parent who is a citizen acquired Italian citizenship (through naturalisation, etc., i.e. after birth) and has resided in Italy for at least 2 consecutive years after acquiring citizenship and before the date of birth of the child.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Residence in Italy prior to acquiring Italian citizenship or residence in Italy by the foreign parent **is not** taken into consideration.

#### Required documents:

- **Application for registration of birth certificate** ([Download](#))
- **For births in the United States:** original or certified copy of the Long Form or Extended Form birth certificate of the child (showing the exact place of birth, date/age and place of birth of the parents, in accordance with the procedures for issuing such certificates in the individual states), duly legalised by apostille and translated into Italian;

- **For births outside the United States:** original or certified copy of the birth certificate of the child duly legalised and its translation into Italian, complete and faithful to the original, also duly legalised. For legalisation, please refer to the Italian diplomatic consular representation in the country where the certificate was issued.
- **Photocopy of the passports** or valid identity documents of the parents and the child (if already in possession);

in addition

- **Certificate of historical residence (certificato storico di residenza)** of the Italian parent (issued by the Italian municipality where they have resided for at least 2 consecutive years);

For more details, please read the section “IMPORTANT” below.

## **CASE B**

**At the date of birth of the child, one parent holds only Italian citizenship.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Self-declarations regarding the lack of other citizenships are not permitted.

### **Required documents:**

- Application for registration of birth certificate ([Download](#))
- **For births in the United States:** original or certified copy of the child's birth certificate in extended form (known as Long Form or Extended Form, which shows the exact place of birth, date/age and place of birth of the parents, according to the procedures for issuing such certificates in individual states), duly legalised by apostille and translated into Italian;
- **For births outside the United States:** original or certified copy of the birth certificate of the child, duly legalised, as well as a complete translation into Italian, faithful to the original, also duly legalised. For legalisation, please refer to the Italian diplomatic consular representation in the country where the certificate was issued.
- **Photocopy of the passports** or other valid identity documents of the parents and the child (if already issued);

in addition

- **Full birth certificate (“atto integrale di nascita”) of the Italian parent** issued by the Italian municipality of birth;
- **Certificate of historical residence (“certificato storico di residenza”)** of the Italian parent;
- Valid Permanent Residence “Green Card” or valid visa for residence in the United States (or US naturalisation certificate showing that the parent's US citizenship was

granted after the date of birth of the child). The Consulate General reserves the right to request additional documents in order to verify that the parent has not acquired other foreign citizenships.

For further details, please read the section IMPORTANT below.

### **CASE C**

**On the date of birth of the child – or on the date of death if prior to the birth of the child – one of the grandparents possessed exclusively Italian citizenship.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** In the case of a grandparent with exclusive Italian citizenship, the parent of the child must still possess Italian citizenship, even if not exclusively. Self-declarations regarding the lack of other citizenships are not accepted.

#### **Required documents:**

- **Application for registration of birth certificate** ([Download](#))
- **For births in the United States:** original or certified copy of the child's birth certificate in extended form (known as Long Form or Extended Form, which shows the exact place of birth of the child, date/age and place of birth of the parents, according to the procedures for issuing such certificates in the individual states), duly legalised by apostille and translated into Italian;
- **For births outside the United States:** original or certified copy of the birth certificate of the child, duly legalised, as well as a complete, faithful translation into Italian, also duly legalised. For legalisation, please refer to the Italian diplomatic consular representation in the country where the certificate was issued.
- **Photocopy of the passports or valid identity documents of the parents and the child** (if already issued);

in addition

- **Full birth certificate (“Atto integrale di nascita”)** of the parent, issued by the Italian municipality of birth/registration;
- **Full birth certificate (“Atto integrale di nascita”)** of the grandparent, issued by the Italian municipality of birth/registration;
- **Historical certificate of residence (“certificato storico di residenza”)** of the Italian grandparent issued by the competent Italian municipality;
- (If the grandparent lived in a foreign country) **Certificate issued by the competent authorities of the foreign country of emigration**, legalised with an apostille or consular legalisation (for countries that have not signed the 1961 Hague Convention) and duly translated with an official translation into Italian, certifying that the Italian grandparent did not acquire the citizenship of the foreign country of emigration prior to the birth of the child. The Consulate General reserves the right to request additional documents in order to verify that the grandparent did not acquire other foreign citizenships.

For further details, please read the section IMPORTANT below.

## **CASE D**

**The minor does not hold nor can obtain another citizenship (e.g. iure sanguinis, iure soli, citizenship by option, etc.).**

For example, a minor is considered to hold another citizenship if:

- they acquire it **iure sanguinis** from one of their parents;
- they acquire it **iure soli** (e.g. by birth in countries that apply this legal principle);
- acquires it by **simple declaration**, without the possibility of refusal by foreign authorities (e.g. for “citizenship by option” to be exercised for children born abroad).

**PLEASE NOTE:** even if the parents decide not to make the declaration of option, the minor is still considered to have another citizenship.

### **Required documents:**

- **Application for registration of birth certificate** ([Download](#))
- Original birth certificate (certified copy) with Apostille (or legalisation, for countries which are not party to the Hague Convention on Apostille);
- **For births outside the United States:** original (certified copy) of the birth certificate of the child, duly legalised, as well as a complete, faithful translation into Italian, also duly legalised. For legalisation, please refer to the Italian diplomatic consular representation in the country where the certificate was issued.
- **Photocopy of the parents' passports or valid identity documents;**

in addition

- Documentary evidence demonstrating the impossibility of acquiring another citizenship (e.g. declarations by the authorities of the country of one of the parents or of the child's birth stating that the child cannot acquire the citizenship of that country).

## **IMPORTANT!!! (cases A-B-C-D)**

Please send the request for transmission and all necessary documents by mail to the following address:

**Consulate General of Italy in Chicago  
Civil Registry Office (Stato Civile)  
500 North Michigan Ave. Ste 1850  
Chicago, IL 60611**

Alternatively, the documents may be delivered to the Consulate during public opening hours.

**Please submit your request for registration of your birth certificate only if you have all the necessary documents to verify your right to Italian citizenship, as listed in the previous paragraphs.**

If the request is not accompanied by such documentation, the Consulate General will send a notice of refusal to the email address indicated in the application, pursuant to Article 10 bis of Law 241/1990, following which the applicant will have 10 days to provide the missing documents.

The Consulate General reserves the right to request additional documents other than that listed in the previous paragraphs if deemed necessary to verify the right to citizenship. In this case, the application will not be accompanied by a notice of refusal, unless there is no response within a reasonable period of time.

## **REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS**

In order to apply for birth registration, ALL of the following requirements must be met:

- **Residence within the jurisdiction of this Consulate General.** At least one parent must reside in one of the following states: Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- **Italian citizenship and A.I.R.E. registration:** At least one parent must be an Italian citizen registered with the Registry of Italians Resident Abroad (A.I.R.E.). [Registration – Consulate General of Italy in Chicago](#)
- **Previous marriages or divorces registered:** Marriages and divorces of Italian citizens must have been registered in Italy For further information, please consult the following LINKS: [Civil Status – Consulate General of Italy in Chicago](#)
  - If the parents are not married or were not married at the time of birth, the following documents must be added to the supporting documents: **a certified copy of a voluntary acknowledgement of paternity legalized with an Apostille and translated into Italian.** The acknowledgement of paternity is known in the USA either as “Acknowledgment of Paternity” or “Certificate of Parentage”. It is usually completed and signed in the hospital by unmarried parents and is then registered together with the birth at the local civil registry office. It can therefore be obtained from the same offices where birth certificates are collected.
- **Updated residential address:** it is recommended that the residential address indicated in the application corresponds to the last residential address communicated to the Consulate General. To verify your address in the consular database, access your profile on Fast.it (LINK: [Online Consular Services](#)). To update your residential address, follow the procedure indicated in the A.I.R.E. section (LINK: [Change of address – Change of consular district – Repatriation – Consulate General of Italy in Chicago](#)).

\*\*\*

## **CASE E**

**Registration of birth certificates following acquisition of Italian citizenship by benefit of law (for minors born abroad whose parent is**

## **an Italian citizen by birth but who do not fall under cases A-B-C-D described above)**

Minors born abroad to a parent who is an Italian citizen by right of blood but who does not automatically pass on citizenship (i.e. minors who do not fall under one of the above-described cases of recognition of citizenship from birth, i.e. iure sanguinis) may acquire Italian citizenship by benefit of law. In these cases, as the minor is not recognised as a citizen by birth iure sanguinis, they will acquire the citizenship (“status civitatis”) from the day after the conditions laid down by law have been met (Article 15 of Law No. 91/1992).

### **Conditions for the acquisition of Italian citizenship by minors by benefit of law and subsequent registration of the birth certificate**

In order for minor children to acquire Italian citizenship by benefit of law, the following requirements must be met jointly:

- **At least one parent must be an Italian citizen by right of blood** (i.e. iure sanguinis). Therefore, acquisition by benefit of law does not apply to parents who hold Italian citizenship on other grounds (naturalisation, citizenship by benefit of law pursuant to Article 9 of Law No. 91/1992, citizenship by marriage pursuant to Article 5 of Law No. 91/1992, citizens juris communicatione, Article 14 of Law 91/92).
- **Both parents** (including the foreign parent) or the guardian **must submit a declaration of intent to acquire citizenship within the peremptory deadline of one year from the birth of the child** (or from the date on which the filiation by an Italian citizen is established or on which the adoption by an Italian citizen is decided during the child's minority). If parentage is recognised at a later date by both parents, who are Italian citizens by birth, the one-year deadline will start from the first recognition. If, on the other hand, recognition by the foreign parent (or Italian citizen who holds the citizenship on grounds other than citizenship by birth) occurs first, the one-year deadline will be calculated from the recognition by the second parent, who is an Italian citizen by birth.
- **The one-year term from birth may be waived until 31 May 2026** under a transitional provision introduced by Law No. 74 of 23 May 2025. Please refer to the dedicated paragraph at the end of this section.

### **Declaration of intent and required documents:**

**The declaration of intent to acquire citizenship must be formal and made in person at the offices of the Consulate General of Italy in Chicago and before the delegated official of the Consulate General.**

If the parents do not make the declaration at the same time, the legal requirement is considered satisfied only on the date on which the declaration of the second parent is submitted.

If parentage (including adoption) is established with respect to only one person (or if the other parent is deceased), the declaration of only one parent will suffice.  
The presence of the minor is not required.

### **Requirements for making a declaration of intent**

In order to apply for birth registration, ALL of the following requirements must be met:

- **Residence in the jurisdiction of this Consulate General.** At least one of the parents must reside in one of the following states: Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- **Italian citizenship and A.I.R.E. registration:** At least one of the parents must be an Italian citizen registered with the Registry of Italians Resident Abroad (A.I.R.E). [Registration – Consulate General of Italy in Chicago](#)
- **Previous marriages or divorces:** Marriages and divorces of Italian citizens must have been registered in Italy. For further information, please consult the following LINKS: Civil Status – [Stato Civile – Consolato Generale d'Italia Chicago](#)
- **Updated residential address:** It is recommended that the residential address stated on the application corresponds to the latest residential address communicated to the Consulate General. To verify your address in the consular database, log in to your profile on Fast.it (LINK: [Online Consular Services](#)). To update your residential address, follow the procedure indicated in the A.I.R.E. section (LINK: [Change of address – Change of consular district – Repatriation – Consulate General of Italy in Chicago](#)).

The declaration must be made in person at the Consulate General by appointment, subject to prior verification of the documents, which must be sent by post to the following address:

**Consulate General of Italy in Chicago**

**Citizenship Office**

**500 North Michigan Ave. suite 1850**

**Chicago, IL, 60611**

Please note that the appointment will be scheduled by this Office only after receiving and verifying the documents received by post. It is not necessary to make an appointment through the prenot@mi platform.

### **Documents to be sent by post:**

- Copy of the parents' and child's passports, if available;
- **For births in the United States:** original or certified copy of the child's birth certificate in extended form (known as Long Form or Extended Form, which shows the exact place of birth, date/age and place of birth of the parents, according to the procedures for issuing such certificates in individual states), duly legalised by apostille and translated into Italian;

- **For births outside the United States:** original or certified copy of the child's birth certificate, duly legalised, as well as a complete, faithful translation into Italian, also duly legalised. For legalisation, please refer to the Italian diplomatic consular representation in the country where the document was issued.
- Extract summarising the marriage certificate (“estratto per riassunto dell’atto di matrimonio”) issued by the Italian municipality where the marriage was registered;
  - If the parents are not married or were not married at the time of birth, the following documents must be added to the documentation: **a certified copy of a voluntary acknowledgement of paternity” legalized with an Apostille and translated into Italian.** The acknowledgement of paternity is known in the USA as either “Acknowledgment of Paternity” or “Certificate of Parentage”. It is usually completed and signed in the hospital by unmarried parents and is then registered together with the birth at the local registry office. It can therefore be obtained from the same offices where birth certificates are collected.
- Receipt of payment of the 250 Euros fee to be paid to the Italian Ministry of Interior:

**Beneficiario (Beneficiary):** Ministero dell’Interno D.L.C.I. Cittadinanza

**Nome della Banca (Bank name):** Poste Italiane S.p.A., Piazzale del Viminale, 00184 Rome

**IBAN code:** IT54D0760103200000000809020

**Causale del versamento (Reason for payment):** Acquisto cittadinanza a seguito di dichiarazione ex art. 4 l.91/1992 nome e cognome del richiedente (Acquisition of citizenship following declaration pursuant to Article 4 of Law 91/1992, name and surname of the applicant)

**BIC/SWIFT code of Poste Italiane:** BPPIITRRXXX (for foreign transfers)

**BIC/SWIFT code:** PIBPITRA (for EUROGRIO circuit transactions)

For further details, please read the section IMPORTANT below.

## **CASE F**

### **Transitional provision for minors as of 24/05/2025**

Law No. 74 of May 23, 2025, converting Decree-Law No. 36 of March 28, introduced a transitional provision that exempts the one-year deadline from birth (or from the date on which filiation by an Italian citizen is recognized, or from the date of adoption by an Italian citizen during the child’s minority) for acquiring citizenship. This exemption is valid only until May 31, 2026.

The exemption applies specifically to children who were minors on May 24, 2025, and have at least one parent who is Italian by right of blood (“jure sanguinis”), it is possible to submit a declaration for acquiring citizenship by May 31, 2026, following the same conditions and procedures as case E.

### **IMPORTANT!!! (cases E and F)**

**Please submit your application for a declaration of intent only if you have all the necessary documents to verify your right to Italian citizenship, as listed in the previous paragraphs.**

If the application is not accompanied by such documents, the Consulate General will send a **notice of refusal** to the email address indicated in the application, pursuant to Article 10 bis of Law 241/1990, **following which the applicant will have 10 days to provide the missing documents.**

The Consulate General reserves the right to request additional documents other than those listed in the previous paragraphs if deemed necessary to verify the right to citizenship. In this case, the application will not be accompanied by a notice of refusal, unless there is no response within a reasonable period of time.

**Once the complete documentation has been received, you will be contacted by email to arrange an appointment to make your declaration of intent.**