

DID YOU OR YOUR CHILD BECOME A U.S. CITIZEN THROUGH A PARENT AND YOU DON'T HAVE **PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP?**

Now is the time to consider applying for a Certificate of Citizenship before the USCIS fee for the N-600 increases by 95% on Dec. 23, 2016.

What is a Certificate of Citizenship?

A Certificate of Citizenship is a document available to people who were born outside of the U.S. and automatically acquired or derived U.S. citizenship through birth to or adoption by a U.S. citizen parent or parents.

For Example: Joi, her husband and two children entered the U.S. as refugees and obtained Lawful Permanent Resident status. A few years later, Joi applied for naturalization and became a U.S. citizen. Joi's minor children derived citizenship through her naturalization. To prove that they are now citizens, they may apply for Certificates of Citizenship.

How do we apply for a Certificate of Citizenship?

By filing USCIS Form N-600. Currently the filing fee is \$600. This fee will substantially increase by \$570 to \$1,170 on Dec. 23, 2016.

Why would we need the Certificate to prove citizenship?

- To obtain an enhanced driver's license
- To apply for certain social benefits such as Medicaid, housing, etc.
- To apply for a job with the federal government
- To qualify for in-state tuition

Are there other ways to prove U.S. Citizenship without getting a Certificate of Citizenship?

Yes, a U.S. passport may also be used to demonstrate citizenship. For more information on how to obtain a U.S. passport and the current fees, visit: www.travel.state.gov.