Instructions for Request for Certification of Military or Naval Service

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

USCIS
Form N-426
OMB No. 1615-0053
Expires 03/31/2025

What is the Purpose of Form N-426?

Persons who are currently serving honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces or who have served honorably in the past are granted certain exemptions from the general requirements for naturalization. To establish eligibility, the law requires the executive department under which such person is serving to certify whether the service member is serving honorably.

You (the service member applying for naturalization) should submit this form to certify your service with your Form N-400, Application for Naturalization, if you are applying for military naturalization under section 328 or 329 of the Immigration and Nationality Act and you are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

If you have served in the U.S. Armed Forces but have separated from service and are no longer serving, **do not submit this form**. Instead, for each period of service, you must submit a copy of your DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, NGB Form 22, National Guard Report of Separation and Record of Service, or other official discharge document. You should submit your official discharge documents with your Form N-400, in accordance with the form instructions.

ONLY personnel with certifying authority (generally a military official serving in pay grade of O-6 or higher or GS-15 or higher) from the military branch may certify this request. Recruiters cannot certify this request. Please review your service's specific policies on who can certify Form N-426.

General Instructions

USCIS provides forms free of charge through the USCIS website. To view, print, or fill out our forms, you should use the latest version of Adobe Reader, which you can download for free at **http://get.adobe.com/reader/**. If you do not have internet access, you may call the USCIS Contact Center at **1-800-375-5283** (TTY **1-800-767-1833)** and ask that we mail a form to you. The USCIS Contact Center provides information in English and Spanish.

Signature. Each request must be properly signed and filed. For all signatures on this request, USCIS will not accept a stamped or typewritten name in place of a signature. A legal guardian may also sign for a mentally incompetent person.

Filing Fee. See Form G-1055, available at **www.uscis.gov/forms**, for specific information about the fees applicable to this form.

How To Complete Form N-426

1. Type or print legibly in black ink.

2. Service members **must** complete **Parts 1. - 2.** fully and accurately. If a question does not apply to you, type or print "N/A," unless otherwise directed. Certifying officials **must** complete **Parts 3. - 4.** Both service members and certifiers must sign where indicated.

3. USCIS Online Account Number (if any). Providing your unique USCIS Online Account Number (OAN) helps you manage your online account. You have an Online Account Number if you previously filed an application, petition, or request online or by mail and were issued a receipt number that begins with IOE. If you filed a form online, you can find your OAN in your USCIS Online Account profile. If you mailed your form, you can find your OAN at the top of the USCIS Account Access Notice we sent you. The OAN is not the same as an A-Number. If you do not have a receipt number beginning with IOE, you do not have an OAN.

Processing Information

Initial Processing. Once USCIS accepts your certification, we will check it for completeness. You, and the certifying official, must each complete your respective portions of Form N-426. If you do not completely fill out this request, you will not establish a basis for your eligibility and USCIS may reject or deny your Form N-400.

Requests for More Information. USCIS may request that you provide more information or evidence to support your certification request. We may also request that you provide the originals of any copies you submit. If we request an original document from you, we will return it after we determine we no longer need your original.

DHS Privacy Notice

AUTHORITIES: The information requested on this request, and the associated evidence, is collected under the Immigration and Nationality Act sections 328 and 329 and 8 U.S.C. sections 1439-40.

PURPOSE: The primary purpose for providing the requested information on this request is for the Department of Defense to verify your military or naval service. This request is submitted to the branch of the U.S. military in which you, as a naturalization applicant, are currently serving in order to certify your military service. Completion and certification of this request by you and a certifying official serve as an authenticated record of military service.

DISCLOSURE: The information you provide is voluntary. However, failure to provide the requested information, including your Social Security number (if applicable), and any requested evidence, may delay the naturalization process or result in failure to locate military records or prove qualifying military service.

ROUTINE USES: DHS may, where allowable under relevant confidentiality provisions, share the information you provide on this request and any additional requested evidence with other Federal, state, local, and foreign government agencies and authorized organizations. DHS follows approved routine uses described in the associated published system of records notices [DHS/USCIS-001 - Alien File, Index, and National File Tracking System and DHS/USCIS-007 - Benefits Information System] and the published impact assessment [DHS/USCIS/PIA-056 USCIS Electronic Immigration System (USCIS ELIS) which you can find at **www.dhs.gov/privacy**. DHS may also share this information, as appropriate, for law enforcement purposes or in the interest of national security.

Paperwork Reduction Act

An agency may not conduct or sponsor an information collection, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated at 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering the required documentation and information, completing the request, preparing statements, attaching necessary documentation, and submitting the request. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Office of Policy and Strategy, Regulatory Coordination Division, 5900 Capital Gateway Drive, Mail Stop #2140, Camp Springs, MD 20588-0009; OMB No. 1615-0053. **Do not mail your completed Form N-426 to this address.**

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► **START HERE - Type or print in black ink.**

Part 1. Information About Service Member

1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any)
► **A-**

2. DOD ID Number

3. Full Legal Name

Family Name (Last Name)

Given Name (First Name)

Middle Name (if applicable)

4. USCIS Online Account Number (if any)
►

5. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)

Part 2. Service Member's Certification and Signature

Service Members's Certification

I authorize release of information contained in this request, supporting documents, and from any of my records that USCIS may need to determine my eligibility for the immigration benefit that I seek, and to other entities and persons where necessary for the administration and enforcement of U.S. immigration laws.

I certify, under penalty of perjury, that I provided or authorized all of the information in my request. I understand all of the information contained in, and submitted with, my request, and I certify, under penalty of perjury, that all of this information is complete, true, and correct.

Service Member's Signature

1. Service Member's Signature

Date of Signature (mm/dd/yyyy)

Part 3. Certifying Official Attestation

I, _____ (Full Name) _____ (Rank) _____ (Title),

certify that I am duly authorized under the laws, regulations and policies of the Department of Defense to certify the service member's honorable service. I have personally reviewed the service member's service record. The information provided herein is a reflection of my findings. I certify that the information given here concerning the service of the person named on this request is correct according to the records of the of the service member's current branch of service.

I further certify that _____ (service member's name):

1. is currently serving in _____ (branch of service) since _____ (date service started (mm/dd/yyyy))

2. is currently serving: ☐ honorably ☐ not honorably

3. the type of service is: ☐ Active Duty ☐ Selected Reserve of the Ready Reserve or ☐ Other

Part 3. Certifying Official Attestation (continued)

Information About the Certifying Official

Branch of Service

Unit (such as Military Base, Vessel, Battalion, Brigade)

Work Telephone Number

Military Email Address

Certifying Official's Signature

Official Signature

Date of Signature (mm/dd/yyyy)

Part 4. Remarks

Provide any derogatory information in your records relating to the service member's character, loyalty to the United States, criminal or unlawful conduct investigations, pending court martials, convictions, discharges characterized as other than honorable, bad conduct, or dishonorable, or other matters concerning his or her fitness for citizenship. If you need extra space to complete this section, please provide a signed written statement.