



AP U.S. Government and Politics

Requirements for Citizenship

Name:

Section:

Directions: The chart below outlines the different pathways to becoming a citizen of the United States

	Requirements	Time as a permanent resident	Continuous Residence
1	If you are at least 18 years old and: Have been a Permanent Resident for the past 5 years and have no special circumstances.	5 years	5 years as a Permanent Resident without leaving the United States for trips of 6 months or longer.
2	If you are at least 18 years old and: Are currently married to and living with a U.S. citizen; and Have been married to and living with that same U.S. citizen for the past 3 years; and Your spouse has been a U.S. citizen for the past 3 years	3 years	3 years as a Permanent Resident without leaving the United States for trips of 6 months or longer.
3	Are in the U.S. Armed Forces (or will be filing your application within 6 months of an honorable discharge); and have served for at least 1 year.	You must be a Permanent Resident on the day of your interview.	Not Required
4	If you were born in the United States, born to a parent who was a citizens at the time while overseas (can decide country of citizenship at 18), were born to parents who were serving the United States abroad (embassy, etc...)	Not Required	Not Required
5	If you are at least 18 years old and: Were married to a U.S. citizen who died during a period of honorable active duty service in the U.S. Armed Forces.	Not Required	The same requirements as any other applicant for naturalization, depending on your qualifications.

Additional Considerations:

- English and Civics Knowledge (required for all)
- Good Moral Character (required for all)
- Attachment to the Constitution (required for all)