



# Embassy Tel Aviv's Consular Sun Times

## Spotlight: U.S. Citizenship through the "Grandparent Clause"

U.S. citizens who do not meet the residence or physical presence requirements to transmit citizenship to their children at birth may be eligible to naturalize their children through Section 322 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), popularly known as the "Grandparent Clause." In general, to acquire citizenship under Section 322, a child must meet the following requirements

- (1) At least one parent is a U.S. citizen or, if deceased, the parent was a U.S. citizen at the time of death.
- (2) The U.S. citizen parent or his or her U.S. citizen parent (the

child's grandparent) has (or had at the time of his or her death) been physically present in the United States or its outlying possessions for at least 5 years, at least two of which were after attaining the age of 14.

- (3) The child is not married and will be under the age of 18 years at the time he or she takes the Oath of Allegiance.
- (4) The child is residing outside of the United States in the legal and physical custody of the U.S. citizen parent or legal guardian.

For specific instructions on how to apply for naturalization through Section 322, please read the directions on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) [website](#) on filing form N-600K, and providing required documentation.

Please note that USCIS has instituted a new fee schedule for immigration services, effective December 23, 2016.

In particular, the filing fee for applications for U.S. citizenship through Section 322 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), has been increased from \$600 to \$1,170 per child. The full list of changes can be found on the [USCIS website](#).

## U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv

### Upcoming Events:

- Tuesday, March 28 – The Federal Benefits Unit will be in Tel Aviv to provide Social Security-related services. Please email [amctelaviv@state.gov](mailto:amctelaviv@state.gov) to make an appointment.

### Upcoming Closures:

- ◆ Monday, February 20 (Washington's Birthday)
- ◆ Friday, February 24 (Tel Aviv Marathon)
- ◆ Tuesday, April 11 (1st Day of Passover)
- ◆ Monday, April 17 (Final Day of Passover)

### FYI: Executive Order Information

The recent Executive Order (Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States) signed by President Trump on January 27th **does not apply to U.S. citizens.**

### PASSPORT DENIAL/REVOCAION FOR CERTAIN UNPAID TAXES:

The IRS recently announced that it will soon be identifying individuals with unpaid, legally enforceable federal tax debts exceeding \$50,000 USD and passing these certifications to the Department of State. **The process has not yet been implemented**, but additional information will be made available once it does. Read the IRS announcement here: <https://www.irs.gov/businesses/small-businesses-self-employed/revocation-or-denial-of-passport-in-case-of-certain-unpaid-taxes>

### FYI: Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) Change

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is implementing significant changes made to the Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) program under the PATH Act of 2015. The new law means that as of January 1, 2017 any ITIN not used on a federal tax return at least once in the last three years will no longer be valid for use on a future tax return unless the taxpayer renews the ITIN. In addition, all ITINs issued prior to 2013 will begin to expire this year and taxpayers will need to renew them. For more information concerning this change, and instructions for ITIN renewal, please see the IRS' [FAQ page](#) on this change.

## Reminder: Check Your Passport!

As always, the New Year is a great time to check if you need to renew your passport! Even if you do not have upcoming travel, please check your passport's expiration date so you can be prepared for the coming year.

Please note that all U.S. citizens are required to include their *correct* Social Security number on passport applications. If you have never been issued a Social Security number, you will be required to sign a declaration under penalty of perjury attesting to this fact. Refusal to provide your number may be grounds for passport denial.

The Embassy does not have access to Social Security records and cannot provide your number to you. Those who do not know their Social Security number should contact the Federal Benefits Unit at the Consulate General in Jerusalem before applying for a passport. Their website is:

<https://jru.usconsulate.gov/u-s-citizen-services/social-security/>

### American Citizen Services Passport Roadshows

Tel Aviv too far to travel to conveniently with the whole family? Not a problem! The U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv's American Citizen Services team will be travelling to the following cities on these dates in order to take your passport and Consular Record of Birth Abroad (CRBA) applications! As with a normal appointment at the Embassy, please review the lists of required documents for your application on our [website](#) before arriving for your appointment.

**Dimona** (Tuesday, February 14): Please contact [shomreihashalom@yahoo.com] for more information, and to make an appointment.

**Beit Shemesh** (Tuesday, February 28): Please contact [usembassyinbeitshemesh@gmail.com] for more information, and to make an appointment.

**We are also looking at having a passport roadshow in Modi'in in early March and in Eilat in early April.** Once the dates have been finalized, we will send out additional information.

### Voting Corner

The 2016 presidential election may be over, but voter registration remains important. Elections for federal, state and local office will be held this year, including gubernatorial elections for Virginia and New Jersey, and two special elections for the U.S. Congress:

The State of California will conduct a special primary election on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 for the 34th Congressional District to replace Xavier Becerra who resigned from the U.S. House of Representatives to take the position of Attorney General of California

The State of Kansas will conduct a special election on Tuesday, April 11, 2017, for the 4th Congressional District to replace Mike Pompeo who resigned from the U.S. House of Representatives when he was confirmed and formally sworn in as the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

**If you are a Kansas resident from the 4th Congressional District, register and request an absentee ballot today starting at [FVAP.gov](http://FVAP.gov).** Service members, eligible family members and overseas citizens may use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), the registration and ballot request form accepted by all States and territories. Complete, sign and send the FPCA to your election office.

If you won't be able to vote in person this year, please register and request your absentee ballot again for this year, even if you already did for the 2016 election, in order to make sure your address is accurately on file with the relevant offices.

For more information on how to obtain your absentee ballot, or other election-related subjects, you can contact your state or local registration officials, or the Federal Voting Assistance Program at 703-588-1584 or [vote@fvap.gov](mailto:vote@fvap.gov).

For more specific questions, you may contact the Voting Assistance Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv at [VoteTelAviv@state.gov](mailto:VoteTelAviv@state.gov).

## Welcome to Tel Aviv!

The American Citizen Services Unit of U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv provides information and assistance to all U.S. citizens residing in Israel.

U.S. citizens visiting or residing in Jerusalem, the West Bank, or Gaza should contact [U.S. Consulate General Jerusalem](#) for assistance.

The Consular Agency in Haifa is also available to provide services to residents and visitors in the Haifa area.

### Public Hours:

The American Citizens Services Unit is open to the public from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. Monday – Friday, except American and local holidays. The section is also

normally closed to the public on the first Wednesday of each month.

### Emergencies:

For after-hours emergencies involving U.S. citizens, please call **03-519-7575**.

Please note that the office responding to this emergency number cannot assist with passport renewals, consular reports of birth, or other routine consular matters.

### Emergency Passports:

Emergency passports are intended for U.S. citizens who need to travel immediately to the U.S. due to an unexpected incident or for U.S. citizen tourists whose passports were lost or stolen during their travels. We can issue an emergency passport only when you bring documentary proof of the emergency and proof of immediate travel (plane tickets) to your appointment.

If you need an emergency passport, please send an email to [amctelaviv@state.gov](mailto:amctelaviv@state.gov) with your name, date of birth, proof of emergency, and travel plans so that we can schedule an emergency passport appointment for you the next business day.

### Contact Emails:

U.S. citizen services-[amctelaviv@state.gov](mailto:amctelaviv@state.gov).  
 U.S. visa questions-[nivtelaviv@state.gov](mailto:nivtelaviv@state.gov).  
 Voting questions-[votetelaviv@state.gov](mailto:votetelaviv@state.gov).  
 Consular Agency Haifa -  
[consage@netvision.net.il](mailto:consage@netvision.net.il)

### Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/  
 U.S.EmbassyTelAvivIsrael](https://www.facebook.com/U.S.EmbassyTelAvivIsrael)

**Website:** <https://il.usembassy.gov/>

## Ask the Consul...



**I misplaced my birth certificate, can I receive a replacement certificate at the Embassy?**

**I don't remember my Social Security Number (SSN), can I leave that section blank on my passport form?**

**No.** The Embassy cannot provide nor certify nor apostille U.S. vital records (e.g. birth, marriage, or divorce certificates) as these documents are issued by each individual state, county, or city.

Replacement documents can be obtained through requests to the appropriate office of [Vital Records](#).

**YES, BUT ONLY** if you have never been issued a Social Security number. You must sign a declaration that you have never received an Social Security number.

**NO**, if you do not remember your Social Security number. Please check all your personal documents and with family members. If you know you have one but cannot locate the card or remember the number, please apply for a replacement card at the [Federal Benefits Unit](#) at the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem.

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 Tel Aviv 6343229  
 Israel

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**Fax: 03-516-4390**  
**E-mail: [amctelaviv@state.gov](mailto:amctelaviv@state.gov)**  
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