

Guidelines for Jamaican Citizenship by Descent

An applicant qualifies for Citizenship by descent where:

- A. (i) *He/she was born outside of Jamaica before the 6th August, 1962 and was on the 5th August, 1962 a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies:*
- (ii) *His/her mother or father on the 6th August, 1962 became or would have, but for his/her death, become a citizen of Jamaica.*
- B. *He/she was born outside Jamaica after 5th August, 1962 whose mother/father at date of his/her birth is/was a citizen of Jamaica by birth, descent or Registration by virtue of marriage to a Jamaican.*

This applies also to those who may have held Jamaican passports previously and now need to renew their passport and be issued with machine-readable passports.

How to Apply

An application form/ letter requesting the establishment of a claim to citizenship of Jamaica (the form/letter is obtainable from the High Commission, online at www.jhcnigeria.com or www.pica.gov.jm), should be completed and submitted along with the following documents:

1. Applicant's birth certificate (showing parents' names)
2. Applicant's mother or father's Birth Certificate or Certification of Jamaican Citizenship
3. Two passport-sized photographs (taken within the last 6 months) certified by a Justice of the Peace, Commissioner of Oaths or Notary Public
4. Marriage certificate (where applicable)
5. Applicant's ID (Passport, Driver's License or Voters ID) – applies to persons over age 18
6. Jamaican parent's government issued ID (Passport, Driver's License or Voters ID)
7. Official Change of Name Document (Deed Polls registered through the Court or country's records office, Court Order, etc.)

*Originals and Two (2) copies of all documents **MUST** be submitted.*

*Declaration of birth in lieu of certified copies of birth certificate are **NOT** acceptable.*

Applicants must meet all the above requirements

All applications are sent to The Passport, Immigration and Citizenship Agency in Jamaica for processing. Therefore, please allow a processing period of at least Three (3) months. The Passport, Immigration and Citizenship Agency reserves the right to request additional information and/or documentation from the applicant

Fees

Certification fee is One Hundred United States dollars (US\$100.00)

Mailing fee is Eleven United States dollars (US\$11.00)

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