



HM Passport Office

RE: PASSPORT APPLICATION FOR

Thank you for your passport application.

British nationality is a matter of law and we issue British passports to those that have a claim under the British Nationality Act 1981. This is decided mainly by a person's place and date of birth and their parents' places and dates of birth. From the information you have provided it would appear that you are not a British national.

A person born outside the UK can only claim British citizenship if, at the time of their birth:

- either parent is a British citizen otherwise than by descent - such as by birth in the UK or registration or naturalisation in the UK as a British citizen,
- the British citizen parent is born outside the UK and was in Crown, designated or EU institution service at the time of their birth. (This gives them British nationality other than by descent enabling them to pass on their British nationality.)

Your father was born in South Africa after independence 01/01/1949, as his father was born in the UK your father would obtain his status through his father under section 5(1) of the British Nationality Act 1948 your father would be British Subject of the United Kingdom and Colonies (BSUKC) by descent his Right of Abode will also be by descent. As you were also born abroad under the British Nationality Act 1981 you will be a British citizen by descent unfortunately, under British law descent claims cannot be passed down to a further generation born abroad.

If you want to apply for British citizenship, you can get more information and the requirements to qualify for British Citizenship from: <https://www.gov.uk/becoming-a-british-citizen> However, before doing so, you may want to consult the South African authorities to see whether gaining British citizenship would have any effect on your citizenship of that country.

If you gain British citizenship you will then be eligible to apply for a British passport. However you will need to provide the naturalisation or registration certificate. I have enclosed the documents you sent to us with the application. The fee, which is not refundable, has been retained to cover the cost of administering the passport application.

Yours sincerely