



Changes to lodgement arrangements for applications for Citizenship by Conferral for applicants outside of Australia -

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

From 1 April 2011, arrangements for the lodgement of applications for Citizenship by Conferral by applicants who are outside Australia will change.

How do I lodge my application for Citizenship by Conferral if I am outside of Australia?

If you are outside of Australia, you need to lodge your application by post or courier directly with the department's Melbourne office at the following address:

Postal address:

Overseas Citizenship Unit (OCU)
DIAC Melbourne
GPO Box 241
Melbourne VIC 3001
AUSTRALIA

Courier access:

Overseas Citizenship Unit
DIAC Melbourne
Level 2, Casselden Place
2 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne VIC 3000, AUSTRALIA

Your completed application form needs to be lodged with certified copies of the documents which are listed on the application form, together with the application fee.

How do I pay the application fee?

Payment of the application fee should be made by credit card. If you do not have access to a credit card, contact your nearest immigration office outside of Australia to find out about alternate forms of payment. Please do not send cash through the post.

All fees are to be paid prior to or at the time you lodge your application.

Can I lodge my application online?

No. At present, it is not possible to lodge your application online if you are outside Australia. The Department is currently investigating options and may offer this facility in the future.

I lodged my application prior to 1 April 2011. Where is my application now?

If you lodged your application at your nearest immigration office outside of Australia prior to 1 April 2011, your application will be processed by the department's Overseas Citizenship Unit which is located in Melbourne, Australia.

I lodged my application directly with the Overseas Citizenship Unit after 1 April 2011. Where will I sit my citizenship test?

Citizenship testing services will continue to be offered at your nearest immigration office outside Australia.

After you have lodged a valid application and if you are required to sit an Australian citizenship test or attend a citizenship interview, your nearest immigration office outside Australia will contact you to arrange an appointment time.

I am unable to attend my appointment. Can I reschedule my test or interview?

Yes. You are able to reschedule your test or interview appointment by contacting your nearest immigration office outside Australia.

How long will it take to process my application?

The department endeavours to decide 80% of applications within 60 calendar days. A complete application submitted with all the required documentation will assist the department to meet this service standard.

Why have lodgement arrangements changed?

The department is undergoing a wide-ranging transformation program. The direct lodgement of applications to the processing office will reduce delays in processing your application.

For more information visit the citizenship website at www.citizenship.gov.au