



## **CITIZENSHIP BY MARRIAGE (SEE LAST PAGE FOR ITALIAN INSTRUCTIONS)**

Application may only be presented after three years of marriage and subject to the marriage having been duly registered in Italy. Processing period is a minimum of 48 months. If the couple has children, application may be presented after 18 months of marriage subject to the children's birth having been duly registered in Italy. The application may not be submitted if the spouses are divorced, separated or widowed.

### **Documents required for citizenship application:**

- Marriage certificate (*estratto per riassunto dell'atto di matrimonio*) issued by the Municipality in Italy where the marriage has been registered.

- Original UNABRIDGED birth certificate issued by the Department of Home Affairs if born in South Africa.

The certificate must be legalized with an Apostille issued by DIRCO (see attached instructions or visit **DIRCO** (<http://www.dirco.gov.za/consular/legalisation.htm>) and translated by a sworn translator ([https://conscapetown.esteri.it/consolato\\_capetown/it/i\\_servizi/modulistica/traduttori-giurati.html](https://conscapetown.esteri.it/consolato_capetown/it/i_servizi/modulistica/traduttori-giurati.html))

The signature of the sworn translator must either be legalized by means of an Apostille (issued by the Cape Town High Court free of charge) **or** legalized by the Consulate of Italy (Revenue stamp of R395.00 to be paid upon legalization). Said legalization must be done **prior** to submitting the application. For applicants born abroad, the certificate from the country of birth must be duly translated and legalized by the competent authorities in that country.

- Criminal record certificate (for each country in which the applicant has resided, even as a child) – refer to SAPS for South African Criminal record application. The certificate must be legalized with an Apostille issued by DIRCO (see attached instructions or visit **DIRCO** <http://www.dirco.gov.za/consular/legalisation.htm>) and translated by a sworn translator.

Signature of sworn translator must either be legalized by means of an Apostille (issued by the Cape Town High Court, free of charge) **or** legalized by the Consulate of Italy (Revenue stamp of R395.00 to be paid upon legalization). Said legalization must be done **prior** to submitting the application.

NB: note that the criminal record certificate only has a **SIX** month validity.

- Receipt of proof of payment for amount of **Euro 250** to the Italian Ministry of Internal Affairs (see payment instructions reflected below).

- Copy of applicant's identity document or passport

- Proof of knowledge of the Italian language (by means of a certificate) which is not inferior to level B1 see : [https://conscapetown.esteri.it/consolato\\_capetown/it/la\\_comunicazione/dal-consolato/2019/01/nuovi-requisiti-per-la-domanda.html](https://conscapetown.esteri.it/consolato_capetown/it/la_comunicazione/dal-consolato/2019/01/nuovi-requisiti-per-la-domanda.html) or on last page of these instructions.

### **Application:**

- Citizenship application to be **submitted online by the applicant:** <https://cittadinanza.dlci.interno.it>

(original Apostilled translated and legalized unabridged birth certificate, original Apostilled, translated and legalized criminal record certificate, Italian marriage certificate, proof of payment of Euro 250 and copy of id/passport must be scanned and attached to application.) Please note birth and criminal record documents must be scanned as a single pdf containing certificate, Apostille, translation and legalization of sworn translator's signature.

- **IMPORTANT:** Page 4 of the application **must be completed with addresses where applicant resided from the age of 14.**

- Thereafter the Consulate of Italy in Cape Town will contact you to set up an appointment in order to verify the application. All original documents stated above must be presented.

- Application form submitted online must be printed and presented to be signed in front of the Consular official for authentication of signature. (Revenue stamp of R232.00 must be paid)

### **Sworn translators:**

Please consult our website for a list of sworn translators:

[https://conscapetown.esteri.it/consolato\\_capetown/it/i\\_servizi/modulistica/traduttori-giurati.html](https://conscapetown.esteri.it/consolato_capetown/it/i_servizi/modulistica/traduttori-giurati.html)

### Payment instructions:

- a- Revenue stamps to be paid in cash/ EFT to the Consulate
- b- Euro 250 to be transferred internationally into the following account:  
Type: **post office account (POSTE ITALIANE SPA)**

Bank and Account holder: MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO D.L.C.I. – CITTADINANZA  
Address of account holder: Piazza del Viminale n. 1 - 00184 Roma  
IBAN: IT54D0760103200000000809020  
BIC/SWIFT code: BPPIITRRXXX

Reference must state: "Domanda cittadinanza": name, surname (**for women maiden surname only**) and date of birth of the person who applies for citizenship.

## How to submit documentation to the Legalisation Section

From the DIRCO website : <http://www.dirco.gov.za/consular/legalisation.htm>

Documents can be submitted to the Legalisation Section by one of the following means:

***(Please take note that the addresses for submission of documents to the Legalisation Section differ, depending on the manner in which documents are submitted.)***

- **Option 1: Submission in person:**

Physical address: Department of International and Cooperation (DIRCO), OR Tambo Building, 460 Soutpansberg Road, Rietondale, Pretoria, 0084 – Office NE2A-Ground Floor or request the security to direct you to the Legalisation Section (reception area).

Requirements: Our public hours are strictly from 08:30 to 13:30 (Monday to Friday, except for public holidays). *(Refer to the specific processing times listed below for further information, as to avoid any disappointment when visiting the Legalisation Section, in order to ensure that the stipulated public hours and specifically the processing times are adhered to accordingly, etc.)*

Note: No letter of permission or ID book etc., is required to submit and collect documents in person (on another person's behalf). Customer are required to retain the blue (process) slip with the reference number to ensure that they are able to collect the documents when finalised.

- **Option 2: Submission via a courier service:**

Physical address: Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), OR Tambo Building, 460 Soutpansberg Road, Rietondale, Pretoria, 0084 – Attention: Legalisation Section (Office NE2A-Ground Floor).

Requirement for submitting documentation: It is essential to include a covering letter, addressed to the Legalisation Section, stating the country for which the document is needed, as well as contact information and especially an e-mail address. (**Note:** Clearly indicate to the courier company that the documentation must strictly be delivered directly to the Legalisation Section during public hours i.e. between 08:30 and 13:30, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.)

Herewith please find an example (template) iro the

Cover Letter:

**Click on the link below to download the Cover Letter:**

### COVER LETTER

If an e-mail address was included within the covering letter, the customer will then receive an e-mail notification (within this e-mail notification will be the procedure to be followed to make arrangements for collection via a courier service). It must be noted that the e-mail notification will only be forwarded once the documents were actually received and processed accordingly. The customer may also follow-up directly with the Legalisation Section by forwarding an e-mail to [legalisation@dirco.gov.za](mailto:legalisation@dirco.gov.za) (providing the name of the courier company; the airway bill number; and the date of delivery).

Procedure iro collection purposes via a courier service: The customer must firstly receive the e-mail notification from the Legalisation Section; - it will be confirmed that the documents were processed and is in fact ready for collection. The customer will then be requested to make arrangements with the courier service directly, and provide the courier company with a letter of authority, which must include the specified address where it must be forwarded to, and the specific reference number which was allocated by the Legalisation Section (which will be contained in the e-mail notification). It must be noted that without this letter of authority containing the required information and the reference number, the courier company will not be able to collect the documents on behalf of the customer!

**Herewith please find an example (template) of the Letter of Authority:**

### LETTER OF AUTHORITY

Note: Return service to be paid by the customer.

**IMPORTANT: The customer will be responsible to provide (include) protected materials / bubble-wrapped envelopes etc., for transportation purposes, or make arrangements directly with the courier company (of your choice) to provide such materials when collecting from our office. The DIRCO – Legalisation Section is not responsible to provide these materials and will therefore not**

**be held responsible for documentation during the transportation via a courier service from our office to the final destination, etc.**

- **Option 3: Submission by registered/fast mail:**

Postal address: Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), Attention: Legalisation Section, Private Bag X152, Pretoria, 0001.

Requirements: Include an **A4-size** self-addressed/pre-paid return envelope (no cash will be accepted), to allow the Legalisation Section to return

the documents to the customer upon completion. Documents forwarded by mail must be accompanied by a covering letter, depicting the number of documents to be legalised, the country for which the legalisation is required as well as the full contact (telephone/e-mail) details of the sender.

Important note: The customer must ensure that the correct current RSA Post Office rates for domestic deliveries are adhered to, and to ensure that the correct value of stamps are placed on the return envelope. For further information and current rates, please visit the SAPO website – <http://www.postoffice.co.za>.

## South African citizenship Law

### Loss of South African Citizenship (Section 6)

A South African citizen who by a formal and voluntary act acquires the citizenship of another country, automatically loses his or her South African citizenship.

**Retention of South African citizenship** may, however, be applied for, but must be done and be approved before acquisition of the other citizenship to prevent automatic loss of the South African citizenship. Applications must be lodged at the Department of Home Affairs. The Dept. of Home affairs will request a declaration from this consulate stating that Italy allows dual citizenship. The applicant has to request it and collect it from this office. R92.00 revenue stamp to be paid to consulate for issuance of above declaration.

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## DOMANDA DI CITTADINANZA PER MATRIMONIO

<http://www.interno.gov.it/it/temi/cittadinanza-e-altri-diritti-civili/cittadinanza/cittadinanza-invia-tua-domanda>

La domanda di cittadinanza deve essere inoltrata, dal 18 maggio 2015, attraverso una procedura di tipo informatico: Il richiedente dovrà registrarsi sul portale dedicato all'istanza di cittadinanza.

Dall'estero il richiedente deve registrarsi inserendo i dati personali come segue  
COGNOME NOME DATA DI NASCITA gg-mm-aa

Per le donna coniugate: cognome da nubile, come presente nell'atto di nascita

In caso di errato inserimento dei dati anagrafici sarà necessario procedere alla cancellazione della registrazione al portale, dopo avere effettuato l'accesso, utilizzando la funzione del menù "Cancella la registrazione al portale" ed effettuare successivamente una nuova registrazione.

Selezionando la funzione 1. "Gestione Domanda", il richiedente residente all'estero dovrà selezionare il modello AE-cittadini stranieri residenti all'estero, Art. 5.

Si dovrà compilare tutti i campi previsti sul modello selezionato e caricare i quattro documenti obbligatori:

- Estratto di nascita del paese di origine
- Certificato penale del paese di origine e di eventuali paesi terzi
- Ricevuta di versamento
- Documento di riconoscimento
- Prova di conoscenza della lingua italiana non inferiore al livello B1 del Quadro comune europeo di riferimento per la conoscenza delle lingue (QCER) (vedi link per Enti certificatori:

[https://conscapetown.esteri.it/consolato\\_capetown/it/la\\_comunicazione/dal-consolato/2019/01/nuovi-requisiti-per-la-domanda.html](https://conscapetown.esteri.it/consolato_capetown/it/la_comunicazione/dal-consolato/2019/01/nuovi-requisiti-per-la-domanda.html)

Sarà possibile salvare, modificare, eliminare oppure inviare la domanda completata.

Quando il richiedente invierà la domanda, verrà generato un documento riepilogativo e una ricevuta di invio contenente anche un numero identificativo (id domanda).

Il richiedente potrà stampare i due documenti.

Il 4 dicembre 2018 è entrata in vigore la legge 1 dicembre 2018, n. 132.

In base a tale legge, chi richiede la cittadinanza italiana, avendone i requisiti, deve anche dimostrare di possedere una conoscenza della lingua italiana non inferiore al livello B1 del [Quadro comune di riferimento per la conoscenza delle lingue](#) attraverso:

- un titolo di studio rilasciato da un istituto di istruzione pubblico o paritario, ovvero
- una certificazione rilasciata da un ente certificatore.

Attualmente gli enti certificatori, riconosciuti e appartenenti al sistema di certificazione unificato CLIQ (Certificazione Lingua Italiana di Qualità), sono:

- l'Università per stranieri di Siena
- l'Università per stranieri di Perugia
- l'Università Roma Tre
- La Società Dante Alighieri.

Per ottenere tale certificazione in Sudafrica e per avere un sostegno qualificato per apprendere l'italiano ci si può rivolgere ai Comitati della Società Dante Alighieri presenti a [Città del Capo](#), [Durban](#), [Johannesburg](#) e [Pietermaritzburg](#) oppure contattare l'[Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Pretoria](#).

All'indirizzo <http://www.radiodante.it/esercizi/esercizi.php> si può verificare gratuitamente la conoscenza del proprio italiano

On December 4, 2018 the Law of December 1, 2018, no. 132 came into effect.

According to this law, those having the requisites to apply for Italian citizenship must also demonstrate that they possess a knowledge of the Italian language no lower than level B1 of the [Common Framework of Reference for the knowledge of languages](#) through:

- a diploma awarded by a public or equivalent educational institution, or
- a certification issued by a certifying body.

Currently, the certification bodies recognized and belonging to the CLIQ unified certification system (Italian Language Quality Certification), are:

- the University for Foreigners of Siena
- the University for Foreigners of Perugia
- the Roma Tre University
- The Dante Alighieri Society.

To obtain this certification in South Africa and for assistance to learn Italian you can contact the Dante Alighieri Society Committees in [Cape Town](#), [Durban](#), [Johannesburg](#) and [Pietermaritzburg](#) or contact the [Italian Institute of Culture in Pretoria](#).

You can check your knowledge of the Italian Language: <http://www.radiodante.it/esercizi/esercizi.php>