

APPLICATION FOR RETENTION OF SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZENSHIP

NB: PLEASE APPLY BY POST

Any South African citizen who is 18 years and above and intends to acquire foreign citizenship without losing his/her SA citizenship, must apply to be exempted from losing his/her SA citizenship (Retain SA citizenship) before acquiring the foreign citizenship.

Requirements to qualify and apply for retention:

1. A valid South African passport plus 1 copy (in case of postal application, 2 certified copies must be sent)
2. Processing fee: **£25.00** (British pounds) Postal order of the same amount issued out to South African High Commission. N.B. Postal orders only for postal applications, NO CASH must be posted
3. Proof that foreign citizenship is not yet acquired, from the authorities of the country you wish to acquire foreign citizenship of (original and with a sworn translated version if not issued in English). *In case of UK, it is a Non acquisition letter issued by the UK visas and Immigration, **only an original will be accepted.***
4. Fully completed DHA-1664 form, in BLACK INK and BLOCK LETTERS
5. Fully completed DHA-529 form, in BLACK INK and BLOCK LETTERS (**FULLY COMPLETED means all questions of the two forms must be answered. Please do not answer "N/A", it is not an answer to any of the questions. DHA-529 is required, disregard number 8 of DHA-1664**)
6. **Part A:** questions 9, 10 and 11 are mostly important for the applicant. **N.B. number 10(d) must also be answered, with circling a No or a Yes. NO if you are applying for the FIRST TIME for Retention. Yes if you applied for a Retention previously and attach your 1st Retention copy.**
7. **Part B:** The relevant status can be written next to the words Marital Status on the form (e.g. Never married/ Married/ Divorced/Widowed). The details of the applicant's current or former spouse must then be completed on the DHA-529 whether deceased or divorced or widowed)
8. **Part C and D:** Must both be completed in full with the details of the parents of the applicant
9. **Part E:** Ensure that form DHA-529 is signed. Valid telephone/mobile number, email address (in block letters) and physical address must be provided
10. Self-addressed special delivery envelope (with two large first class stamps) with all postal applications.
11. **Any postal application with incomplete forms/information/payment will be returned to the applicant without processing**
12. **Processing time:** Postal Applications - 15 working days (*Non acquisition letters must be received in the office 20 days before their expiry date.*)

N.B. Acquiring foreign citizenship without applying for retention will result in an automatic loss of your South African Citizenship. You cannot apply for retention after acquiring foreign citizenship!!