

OBTAINING GERMAN CITIZENSHIP

There are four main ways of obtaining German citizenship.

You can attempt several routes at the same time.

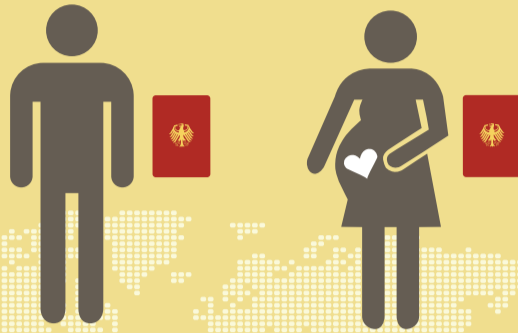
This infographic covers the basics.

For more details and advice, **contact a lawyer.**



1 DESCENT FROM GERMAN PARENT(S)

FATHER AND/OR MOTHER



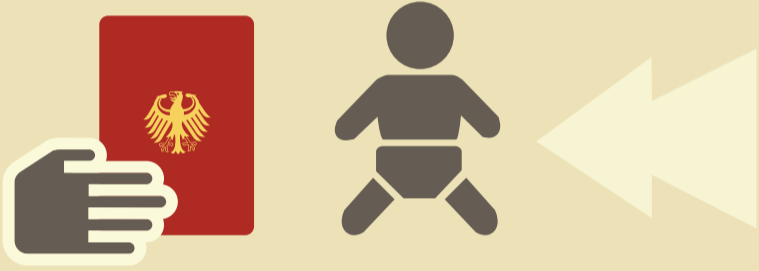
The child of a German mother and/or a German father receives German citizenship at birth, even if it is born outside of Germany.

German citizenship can be passed on through the generations, even if your ancestors left Germany a long time ago.

This line of German citizenship may be broken if one of your ancestors lost or gave up German citizenship.

BIRTH IN GERMANY

2



PARENTS LIVING IN GERMANY



Children born to two non-German parents may receive German citizenship if they are born in Germany.

One parent must be a legal resident of Germany for at least 8 years and have permanent residence.

You will get dual citizenship, but you have to decide between these two by the age of 23.

3 NATURALIZATION



APPLYING FOR GERMAN CITIZENSHIP

Requirements for applying for German citizenship

1. residence in Germany between 3 and 8 years (in exceptional cases you can apply without living in Germany)
2. good German language skills
3. integration course and exam
4. giving up previous citizenship (with several exceptions)
5. no dependency on welfare (with some exceptions)
6. no criminal record



REINSTATEMENT OF CITIZENSHIP

4



Those who lost German citizenship during the Nazi-regime (1933-1945) may have it reinstated.

This also applies to children, grandchildren and further descendants.

LEGAL ADVICE BY ANDREAS MOSER

moser@moser-law.com

andreas_lawyer

@AndreasMoser007

www.linkedin.com/in/andreasmoser1975/en

www.facebook.com/andreas.moser.blog

www.andreasmoser.wordpress.com

maryam.farahbod@gmail.com

aban22nd

@aban22nd

www.linkedin.com/pub/maryam-farahbod/26/290/685

www.maryamfarahbod.com

DESIGN BY MARYAM FARAHBOD