

Citizenship Status Confirmation

The U.S. Department of Education conducts a match with the Social Security Administration and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to insure that all students being processed for federal financial aid are either U.S. citizens or eligible noncitizens.



Your record has been flagged because your citizenship status could not be confirmed.

You will need to provide proof of your citizenship status to the Financial Aid Office at Isothermal Community College. Listed below are the items that are considered acceptable documentation of your status. In some instances a copy of your documentation must be sent to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to undergo what is known as secondary confirmation. This process is simply to verify that the document is indeed valid. Please note that secondary confirmation can take up to 60 days to process and your financial aid cannot be processed until confirmation is complete. It will be to your advantage to provide the Financial Aid Office with the appropriate document as quickly as possible.

Citizens not born in the U.S. or Noncitizen Nationals

- **U.S. Passport** – Can be used to document citizenship for citizen born abroad. For a noncitizen national, must be stamped “Noncitizen National”(Note that a passport issued by another country may be used to document permanent resident status if it has the endorsement ”Processed for I-551” and has a currently valid expiration date.)
- **Certificate of Citizenship** - The Certificate of Citizenship is issued to persons who were born abroad of U.S. parent(s), who became citizens when their parents were naturalized, or who were adopted by U.S. parents.
- **Certification of Birth Abroad** - Issued to U.S. citizens born abroad. Must have embossed seal of the State Department.
- **Certificate of Naturalization** - The Certificate of Naturalization is issued to naturalized U.S. citizens. A revised version of the Certificate of Naturalization is issued to citizens who filed for naturalization after October 1, 1991.

Permanent Residents or Other Eligible Noncitizens

- **I-94 Arrival-Departure Record** - For permanent resident status, must be stamped “Processed for I-551” with expiration date or “Temporary Form I-551” with appropriate information filled in. For other eligible noncitizens, must be stamped as Refugee, Asylum Status, Conditional Entrant (before April 1, 1980), Parolee, or Cuban-Haitian Entrant.
- **Alien Registration Receipt Card I-151** - Issued prior to June 1978 to permanent residents. No longer issued but valid indefinitely. Often referred to as a “green card” though it is not always green.
- **Resident Alien Card I-551** - Issued to permanent residents. The I-551 is a revised version of the I-151. The “Conditional Resident Alien Card” is an I-551 that is issued to conditional permanent residents such as alien spouses. This card is identified by a “C” on the front and has an expiration date on the back.