

Intercountry Adoption & U.S. Citizenship

Improving the Child Citizenship Act



What's wrong?

The Child Citizenship Act of 2000 granted automatic citizenship to most foreign-born adopted people, but not all.

Who doesn't get automatic citizenship?

- ➔ Adopted children who travel on some visa types (IR4 or IH4) do not receive automatic citizenship.
- ➔ Adopted people who were over the age of 18 on February 27, 2001

How do they find out?

- Filling out FAFSA
- Applying to college
- Joining the Armed Services
- Applying for a passport
- Committing a minor crime

What happens?



- ➔ Some U.S. citizen adoptive parents must take steps that are not required of U.S. citizen parents generally to ensure their child receives citizenship.
- ➔ Internationally adopted persons sometimes find themselves without citizenship without even knowing it. As an adult, the process to finalize citizenship becomes harder.

Through no fault of their own, some internationally adopted people lack citizenship. Their family, education, & careers are here. Their citizenship should be too.

What should change?

The Child Citizenship Act of 2000 should be amended to:

- 1** Correct the past and give citizenship to all those brought to live in the U.S. through intercountry adoption, but left without citizenship.
- 2** Ensure automatic citizenship for every full and final adoption by a U.S. citizen.



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