

Replacement certificates and certified copies

Introduction The Citizenship Act 1977 provides for replacement of a citizenship certificate if it is no longer legible, or has been destroyed, lost or stolen.
As the Citizenship Office is unable to issue a duplicate of many of the older certificates (because they are no longer available) a replacement or certified copy of the certificate may be provided.

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Policy statements

Replacement certificates

Replacement certificates are issued to people who have received a grant of New Zealand citizenship.

Note:

Replacement Grant certificates are only produced if the original certificate was in the current format on the green Murex Shell certificate. If the original certificate was produced before these certificates were in use, the applicant can only be issued a Confirmation of Grant certificate on brown crested paper.

Certified copies

Certified copies are issued to people who have registered their citizenship by descent status under section 7 of the Citizenship Act.

Confirmations

Confirmations are issued under section 21 of the Citizenship Act to people who do not fit either of the above categories.

Details not to be changed

The details recorded on the replacement certificate must be taken as they appear on the citizenship register or on the original certificate - unless a mistake was made by the Department at the time citizenship was granted.

Details must not be changed on the certificate, even if the applicant's details were not verified from documents that are later presented. This is because it is a "duplicate" of a certificate already issued, and the Department acted in good faith on the details supplied at the time.

Renunciations and Deprivations

If a person has renounced or been deprived of New Zealand Citizenship, it is as if they have never been a New Zealand Citizen. They are therefore not eligible for a replacement certificate or certified copy. Instead, they would receive a 'No Claim' letter.

Legislation links

[Citizenship Act 1977 section 24\(4\) General provisions as to certificates and other documents](#)
