

## Using Citizenship records to confirm current applicant's status

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**Introduction** A separated applicant may need evidence of the spouse's New Zealand citizenship following separation or divorce, or a minor may require evidence of a parent's New Zealand citizenship. In certain circumstances, it is acceptable to access another person's Citizenship record to confirm a current applicant's status. If an earlier application for grant of citizenship has been successfully made, Citizenship will have a record of the citizenship certificate, and in some instances, a marriage certificate. These documents may be obtained, copied and placed in a current applicant's record, for use as supporting documentation.

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## Policy statements

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### Statements

If applicants require evidence of citizenship:

- it is essential to check the record of Renunciations and Deprivations on the Citizenship Operations System (COS). Confirmation of this check should be recorded on the copy that is made of the original certificate record. Renunciations and Deprivations may also be checked through the Determinations Team.
  - the original applicant's file record is not public information, and must not be released to the current applicant or agent.
  - New Zealand birth certificates and marriage certificates are public records. Copies may be obtained from the Births, Deaths and Marriages on payment of a fee.
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