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## **REGISTRATION AS A CITIZEN OF GUYANA OF A CHILD BORN OVERSEAS TO GUYANESE PARENT**

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Children born overseas to Guyanese parents can register their birth and be issued with a Guyana Registration Certificate which is used to apply for and obtain a Guyana Passport.

Section 4 (2) sub paragraphs (a) and (b) of the Citizenship Act Chapter 14:01 provides for a person to be registered as a citizen of Guyana if he satisfies the Minister that: -

a. He was born before 25 May 1966 and that his mother was a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies at the time of his birth.

The registration of these categories of persons is done at the Department of Citizenship, 164 Waterloo Street, Georgetown.

Sub paragraph –

b. Provides for persons born after May 25th 1966 (after independence) that his mother was a citizen of Guyana at the time of his birth.

Registration of this category of persons is done at the General Registrar Office, GPO Building, Robb Street, Georgetown or at the nearest Guyana Mission Overseas.

It is important to recognize that the Constitution is the superior law and it speak of a citizen of Guyana at the date of his birth, if at that date his father or mother is a citizen of Guyana. The Citizenship Act however, speaks only to the fact that the mother was a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies at the time of his birth. The Constitution is the supreme law and the issue of mother

and father has to be given more weight than that in the ordinary legislation and there is no restriction to a child born illegitimate.

If you were born Overseas to Guyanese Parent (s) you are encouraged to register your birth at the Guyana High Commission, London if you intend to apply for a Guyana Passport.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR OVERSEAS REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS

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- The person to be registered must be born on or after May 26, 1966. Persons born prior to May 26, 1966 will need to make contact with the Ministry of Citizenship, Department of Citizenship and Immigration to enquire how they can obtain citizenship.
- At least one (1) parent whose name is recorded on the Foreign Birth Certificate **MUST be a Guyanese by birth.**

## DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED

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1. Letter of application addressed to the Guyana High Commission requesting to be registered as a Guyanese.
2. Original Birth Certificate of the person being registered. Births not registered in English must be accompanied by an official translation and apostilled by the issuing country.
3. Proof of Birth of the Guyanese parent, whose name must be recorded on the foreign Birth Certificate. The parent's name on the Overseas birth certificate must correspond with the name stated on the foreign birth certificate. In the event that it does not, documents such as deed poll (change of name document); affidavit of identity or marriage certificate in the case of married women should be submitted with the application. Additional documents may be required and will be requested if necessary.
4. Copy of valid photo identification of person effecting the registration. (A copy of the bio-data page of the parent's passport).

5. Both parents must provide written letter consent to the Registration of underaged children.
6. Payment of £10. Personal cheques and Euros are not acceptable.

### **PERSONS BORN BEFORE MAY 25, 1966**

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Unfortunately, the Guyana High Commission is unable to accept applications for persons born before May 26, 1966, such persons will need to make an application directly to the Department of Citizenship, Ministry of Home Affairs, Georgetown Guyana.

Persons residing outside of Guyana, are required to conduct two (2) interviews as follows:

1. At the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, 164 Waterloo Street, Georgetown
2. At the Central Immigration and Passport Office, Camp Road, Eve Leary, Georgetown.

Applicants can either send the forms or submit in person when visiting Guyana. The applicant will however need to be in Guyana to conduct the interviews.

With the introduction of the Machine Readable Passport, an applicant will be required to produce source documents (birth certificate and or certificate of Registration) before a new passport can be issued. Therefore, a person who may have been issued with a passport prior to the introduction of the new system will be required to complete the above process before a new passport is issued.

### **NOTE**

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The child's foreign birth certificate will not be returned but will be retained by the High Commission for its records.

Documents should be submitted with a covering letter requesting that the child be registered as a citizen of Guyana.

Persons residing in the UK can collect the Registration certificate when it is completed or forward a registered self-addressed envelope, while those overseas are required to pay £10.00 for return postage.

Applicants in the UK should note that if a registered self-addressed envelope is not forwarded then he or she is required to include an additional £10.00 for postage.

On receipt of the Certificate of Registration of Birth, the registrant becomes eligible to apply for a Guyana passport.

**Persons who were previously issued with a Guyana passport but did not complete the Registration process will first need to register before a new passport can be issued.**

**Unfortunately the Guyana High Commission will not be able to accept applications which do not fulfil the above requirements.**

**January 2022**