

TABLE 1 - U.S. NATURALIZATION AND NONEXISTING RECORDS

The Italian ancestor's naturalization document is crucial for the recognition of your Italian citizenship. Therefore, an accurate search has to be performed on this matter.

If your ancestor was naturalized a U.S. citizen

- CERTIFICATE OF NATURALIZATION (NO Apostille or translation needed)

AND/OR

- CERTIFIED COPY OF DECLARATION OF INTENTION, PETITION FOR NATURALIZATION, including OATH OF ALLEGIANCE (which is an official document bearing the red ribbon and gold seal of the National Archives - NARA) or NATURALIZATION PAPERWORK issued by USCIS (*) (NO Apostille or translation needed);

If Ancestor is still alive and is NOT an American citizen

- his/her **Italian passport**

AND/OR

- current **U.S. permanent resident card** (“green card”).

If your ancestor was NEVER naturalized a US citizen

- LETTER OF NO RECORD OF NATURALIZATION/PERSON – aliases included - issued by **USCIS** (NO Apostille or translation needed) (**original, not a photocopy**, and with the Office Seal);

AND

- LETTER OF NO RECORD OF NATURALIZATION/PERSON – aliases included - issued by **NARA** (NO Apostille or translation needed) (**original, not a photocopy**, and with the Office Seal);

And one of the following:

- Copy of **ITALIAN PASSPORT** and/or **US GREEN CARD** dated **after** the Italian ancestor's child's (next in line) 21st birthday (up to 1974) or 18th birthday (1975 and on) (NO Apostille or translation needed);
- Documentation from USCIS/NARA showing alien status dated **after** the Italian ancestor's child's (next in line) 21st birthday (up to 1974) or 18th birthday (1975 and on) (NO Apostille or translation needed) (**original, not a photocopy**, and with the Office Seal);
- THE FIRST U.S. CENSUS** dated after the Italian ancestor's child's (next in line) 21st birthday (up to 1974) or 18th birthday (1975 and on) (**Certified Copy, not a photocopy**);

If your ancestor IMMIGRATED to a country OTHER than the U.S.:

- Proof of **NATURALIZATION** or **NO NATURALIZATION** through pertinent documentation issued by the competent authority of the country with **APOSTILLE** and **TRANSLATION** into Italian;
N.B. Documents issued in countries other than the U.S. must comply with the local regulations on the legalization of documents, they must be translated into Italian and the translation must be certified by the Italian Consulate/Embassy in the country where the documents were issued. For information on how a document should be legalized in its country of origin, you can check the website of the competent Italian Consulate/Embassy (A list of all Italian Consulate/Embassies abroad is available at: www.esteri.it/it);

List of the Offices you can contact:

1. **USCIS.** (www.uscis.gov) :
 (*) This office can send you a photocopy of your ancestor’s certificate or alien registration card kept in their records, because USCIS will release a certified copy **only** to the person who received citizenship. You need to request a hard copy and submit the package you will be receiving including the cover letter.
 - Historical records through Genealogy program: [Genealogy | USCIS](https://www.uscis.gov/g-1041) – <https://www.uscis.gov/g-1041>
 - certification of nonexistence of a specific record: [Request for Certificate of Non-Existence | USCIS](#)

2. **The National Archives** (www.archives.gov):
 NARA offices collect documents from all over the United States. You could obtain a certified copy of your ancestor’s “**petition for naturalization**” which includes the “**oath of allegiance**” (<https://www.archives.gov/research/immigration/naturalization>) from the National Archives if the proceedings were completed at a federal court. Documents from NARA must be **certified copies**, bearing the red ribbon and gold seal of NARA. If no record is found, a negative search letter stating no record could be found is required. Starting **June 2024**, the **Electronic Record Division of NARA** ([Electronic Records at the National Archives | National Archives](#)) can issue certified copies of the Alien Registration (AR-2) Form issued **1940-1944** if your ancestor registered during that time (<https://www.archives.gov/research/immigration/alien-registration-ar-2>).

3. **County Court** in which the ancestor resided and in which his/her child was born.

4. **Census record.** It may provide additional information relevant to your case even if based on the information provided by the individual: Immigration Records, Naturalization Records, Ship Passenger Lists, Military records, the U.S. Passport applications, Voter List Records and others (www.census.gov). Ask for the first U.S. Census dated after the birth of the Italian-born ascendant’s child.

SUMMARY

<u>Naturalization</u>	<u>Non-Naturalization</u>
Naturalization Certificate (NO Translation)	USCIS: No Record of Naturalization
<u>and</u>	<u>And</u>
Oath of Allegiance (NO Translation)	NARA: No Record of Naturalization
<u>Or</u>	<u>And one of the following</u>
<u>Green Card issued after the Italian ancestor’s child’s 21st birthday (up to 1974) or 18th birthday (1975 and on)</u>	<u>Census record - dated after the Italian ancestor’s child’s 21st birthday (up to 1974) or 18th birthday (1975 and on)</u>
	<u>Italian Passport/Green Card</u>
	<u>Declaration of Intention / Petition for Naturalization</u>
	<u>Mod. AR-2 (1940 – 1944)</u>

PLEASE NOTE:

When submitting a request to one of these offices, please provide your Italian ancestor's full name (and aliases, nicknames, and any other names appeared on any official documents), possible places and dates of birth, which he may have declared during his life, according to the ancestor's documents and information available.

Conduct a search that covers from the time of arrival of your Italian ancestor in the USA, to the 21st birthday (up to 1974) or 18th birthday (1975 and on) of their child born in the USA, and support it with official statements.

This Consulate's citizenship office has the right to request additional documents, beyond the ones provided by the applicant, in order to determine the eligibility to obtain Italian citizenship.