

Dual Citizenship Checklist

This information is what we used for obtaining dual citizenship through a grandparent for Italy. It is basic information that you will need to obtain. All documents must be originals (no photo copies) and all documents must have a stamped and usually raised seal.

Each state may have different requirements for obtaining dual citizenship and you should advise them that you are requesting the original documents for that purpose and inquire if the state requires any additional signatures or seals. Important: Ask specifically about an Apostille for each document. An Apostille is a certificate issued by a designated authority which is a requirement for legalization of foreign public documents.

CHECKLIST	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Your birth certificate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Your current marriage certificate If you have been divorced, you will need that certificate and/or divorce decree
<input type="checkbox"/>	If your spouse is also applying, need their birth certificate At the current time, you must be married before 1983 for a spouse to be eligible for citizenship through you.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Your mother's birth/marriage/divorce/death certificates
<input type="checkbox"/>	Your father's birth/marriage/divorce/death certificates
<input type="checkbox"/>	Your grandparent's birth/marriage/divorce/death certificates
<input type="checkbox"/>	Your grandparent naturalization papers (if applicable) If grandparent became a US Citizen, you must show your parent was born before their US Citizenship took effect.
	At this point, if you were able to obtain all the original documents yourself, you are in a good position. At any time, we can recommend two people that can assist you with obtaining documents. (see below)
<input type="checkbox"/>	All documents must each be translated into Italian in the proper format. This was done for us by our lawyer, Roberta Gentili Purcell
<input type="checkbox"/>	Make an appointment to see the Consulate in your area. For Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Colorado, and southern California residents, the Consulate is located in Los Angeles, California. It is the largest and busiest in the country. This is the last step in the document process. It is at this time; the Consulate will tell you if you have provided the necessary documents. Be aware, as it was in our case, it will take about 2 years to process. Even after this time, we were asked to have papers amended which took another 4 months to obtain and then send to them.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Homeland Security	
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International Lawyer	
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Contact in Italy to Assist with Finding Documents	
Name	Raffaella Matera
Email	Suanj_it@yahoo.it Reasonably priced and you pay her through PayPal
Other Suggestions	
Italian law changes so often it is difficult to put into writing or give advice on citizenship. There is a fantastic Facebook group who has outstanding information and worth joining. Check out: <i>Dual U.S.-Italian Citizenship</i> .	
The local Italian Consulate in Phoenix can guide and provide you with helpful information. You must make an appointment.	
A website for information regarding residence in Italy and, living there legally: http://www.understandingitaly.com/living-content/residency.html	