



Who is entitled to the portuguese citizenship

1. Attribution of Portuguese citizenship

- a) Children of either Portuguese parents, born in Portugal[1] – Article 1, 1, a of the Nationality Act;
- b) Children of either Portuguese parents, born abroad, when the Portuguese parent was there at the service of Portugal[2] – Article 1, 1, b of the Nationality Act;
- c) Children of either Portuguese parents, born abroad, whose birth was registered in Portugal or who want to be Portuguese citizens – Article 1, 1, c of the Nationality Act;
- d) Children of foreign citizens, born in Portugal[3] to a parent that was also born and settled in Portugal[4] – Article 1, 1, d of the Nationality Act;
- e) Children of foreign citizens, born in Portugal[5], whose either parents were lawfully settled in Portugal[6] for at least 5 years – Article 1, 1, r of the Nationality Act;
- f) Stateless persons born in Portugal[7] – Article 1, 1, f of the Nationality Act.

2. Acquisition of the Portuguese citizenship due to the will of the applicant

- a) Underage or incapable children of father or mother who has acquired the Portuguese citizenship – Article 2 of the Nationality Act;
- b) Foreign citizen who is married to a Portuguese citizen for over three years – Article 3,1 of the Nationality Act;
- c) Foreign citizen who is living in a civil partnership with a Portuguese citizen for over three years – Article 3, 3 of the Nationality Act.
- d) Those who had lost their Portuguese citizenship due to waiver of the citizenship whilst they were incapable – Article 4 of the Nationality Act;
- e) Person fully adopted by a Portuguese citizen – Article 5, 1, b of Nationality Act.

3. Acquisition of the Portuguese citizenship through naturalisation

- a) Foreign citizens who meet the following requirements:
 - Being of full age or emancipated person under the terms of the Portuguese law;
 - Reside lawfully in the Portuguese territory for at least six years;
 - To have enough knowledge of the Portuguese idiom;
 - Not have been convicted, through a final and unappealable sentence, of an offense which maximum punishment is imprisonment for three years or more, under the terms of the Portuguese law – Article 6, 1 of the Nationality Act.
- b) Underage children of foreign citizens, born in Portugal[8], as long as they meet the requirements of sections c and d of the Article 6, 1 of the Nationality Act and if at least one of the following conditions is verified:

One of the parents is residing lawfully in a Portuguese territory for at least five years;

· The underage has finished the first cycle of elementary school in a Portuguese territory – Article 6, 2 of the Nationality Act.

c) Persons who once have had and lost the Portuguese citizenship, however have never obtained another citizenship[9] - Article 6, 3 of the Nationality Act;

d) Persons born abroad with, at least, one Portuguese grandparent who has not lost the Portuguese citizenship[10][3] - Article 6, 4 of the Nationality Act;

e) Children of foreign citizens, who have lived in the Portuguese territory during the 10 years prior to the application – Article 6, 5 of the Nationality Act;

f) Non-stateless persons, who have had the Portuguese citizenship in the past, or who are Portuguese descendents, or members of Portuguese communities or foreigners who have rendered or were convoked to render relevant services to the Portuguese government or national community – Article 6, 6 of the Nationality Act.

4. Special Cases

a) Portuguese citizens who have lost the Portuguese citizenship, during the effectiveness of previous acts, due to the fact they had obtained another citizenship;

b) Portuguese women who have lost the Portuguese citizenship because they have got married to foreign citizens;

c) Foreign women who have got married to Portuguese citizen during the effectiveness of the rules prior to the current Nationality Act;

d) Citizens born in the former Portuguese State of India;

e) Descendents of citizens born in the old Portuguese State of India;

f) Some citizens born in the old colonies of Angola, Mozambique, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe and their descendents, born before their independencies;

g) Citizens born in Macau during the Portuguese administration;

h) Citizens born in East Timor until its Independence.

[1] Or in a Portuguese territory or in a territory under the Portuguese administration, during the first phase of effectiveness of the Nationality Act.

