

General Instructions

PIO Card scheme has been withdrawn by the Government of India (GOI) vide Gazette Notification No.25024/9/2014F.1 dated 09.01.2015. In this context, GOI has issued a new Gazette Notification No.26011/01/20141C.I dated 09.01.2015 stating that all Person of Indian Origin (PIO) cards issued till 09.01.2015 are to be converted into Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cards. Henceforth, applicants holding PIO Cards may apply for OCI cards online on website <https://ociservices.gov.in/welcome> - OCI Registration (in lieu of valid PIO-Card)

Please read Instruction carefully before filling up the form. All applicants are requested to strictly follow the procedure mentioned below for processing of applications for registration as OCI card service:-

Applicants who are holding Voter ID and Ration Card must surrender and provide an undertaking along with the OCI application.

The applicants may submit the application form online and upload the self-attested photocopies of the relevant documents, photograph and signature (in case of minors who cannot sign, left hand thumb impression) along with the application. For minors, application and all supporting documents have to be signed by both parents as well as an indication of their consent to the minor's application, otherwise application will not be accepted.

Please write the PIO card number together without any space or hyphen(-).
(eg. P00000000)

Please upload good quality copy of the following documents (self-attested)

- a) Swiss / Foreign Passport with signature page.
- b) PIO card (front and back page details).

Please send all self-attested enclosures along with the Application form duly signed in Parts A and B, to the Embassy for prior verification.

- a) Swiss/Foreign Passport with signature page.
- b) PIO card. (front and back page details)
- c) A copy of Swiss Residence Permit in case of all nationals except Swiss.

- d) Attach (Two) recent good quality colour photographs with neutral expression (50x50mm with 80% coverage of face, front view). <https://ociservices.gov.in> >
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OCI card in lieu of PIO card on the basis of spouse of Indian origin:

The applicant may submit the application online for OCI card in lieu of PIO card to the Indian Mission concerned within the jurisdiction of his/her place of residence. OCI card in lieu of PIO card can be applied for on the basis of spouse of Indian origin provided that their marriage should be registered and they are married for a minimum period of two years.

Please upload good quality copy of the following documents (self-attested)

- a) Swiss/Foreign Passport with signature page.
- b) PIO card. (front and back page details)

Starting from 01.07.2025, applicants are required to visit the Indian Consular Application Centre in person for biometric enrollment, as part of the application process.

Please bring all self-attested enclosures along with the Application form duly signed in Parts A and B, to the Indian Consular Application Centre, Bern for prior verification.

- a) Swiss/Foreign Passport with signature page.
- b) A copy of Swiss Residence Permit in case of all nationals except Swiss.
- c) A copy of current residential address proof,
- d) A copy of registered marriage certificate (Auszug aus dem Eheregister).

- e) Proof of the Indian national/origin spouse for grant of OCI card. (.ie.; valid / cancelled Indian passport, foreign passport, OCI card of the spouse and copies of the documents upon which the OCI card was issued to the spouse).

Joint Declaration is to be submitted at the time of application stating that:

We, (full name) holder of passport no. and.....
(full name), holder of passport no., hereby solemnly and sincerely declare that our marriage registered on and is still subsisting. We are living together as husband/wife at (address), Switzerland.

In case of separation/divorce or marriage to another foreigner or death of the Indian spouse, the OCI card to be issued in favour of Mr./Mrs.
(full name) will be surrendered to the issuing authority or mission.

A person who has attained the age of 18 years and above must enclose Original of "No Criminal Record Certificate" issued by the Federal Office of Justice. (Auszug aus dem Schweizerischen Strafregister).

The applicant can verify the status of the application online by quoting his/her passport number along with online Registration Number after 4 weeks of submitting the application to the Embassy. No separate intimation will be sent to the applicant about the status of their application.

<https://ociservices.gov.in/statusEnquiry>

When status shows "Documents received at Berne" with date, please provide the following documents to the Indian Consular application Centre for the new OCI card: -

- a) Print out of on-line status report.
- b) PIO card in original for cancellation.
- c) Swiss/Foreign Passport in original for verification.