

Documents applicable in case of fresh application of a person who is a foreign citizen by birth and never held Indian passport:

ADULT (Applicants of or above the age of 18 years):

S.NO	Document
1.	Duly signed OCI Application Form in original. The application may be submitted online on the Government of India's official website https://ociservices.gov.in/ and physical copy of the OCI application needs to be submitted with supporting documents. Please read the following carefully: • If you are applying for OCI card for the first time, kindly apply for new OCI registration. • If you are a PIO Cardholder, kindly register through OCI Registration as New OCI. • If you are already an OCI Cardholder kindly register through OCI registration as OCI Miscellaneous. • To reprint your already registered application, kindly use 'Re- Print Submitted Application' service. ❖ Please note that, effective 1 July, physical OCI cards will no longer be issued. All applicants may download e-OCI (Electronic OCI) directly through the OCI Portal, once the application status changes to "Granted". ❖ In case of urgent travel, applicants may apply for appropriate visa. Please note that the Consulate/Mission reserves the right to request additional documents, if necessary
2.	Photograph & Signature: For detailed specifications - please click here • The physical photo must be affixed on the physical application form and the digital photo must be uploaded on the OCI form online. • Physical and uploaded photographs must be identical. • The digital signature must also be uploaded online on the OCI portal (only in blue or black ink). Uploaded signature must match the signature on the physical application form and passport.
3.	Copy of current valid passport Passport with validity of minimum 6 months at the time of submission of application. The information page of the passport should be duly signed at the designated space. The document must be self-attested.
4.	Birth Certificate: The document must be self-attested Copy of the birth certificate may be provided, if the applicant was born in the USA. It must reflect : (i) Names of Parents; (ii) Date of Birth; and (iii) Nationality. Birth certificates issued by hospitals are not acceptable. Important Note: If the applicant was born outside of India, the birth certificate must either be apostilled by the relevant foreign government or attested by the appropriate foreign mission. Do not send original apostilled documents to VFS or Consulate office. We require self-attested copies of the apostilled documents instead

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5.	Evidence of Indian origin of parents or grandparents or great grandparents (the document must be self-attested): Any of the following documents may be provided: • Copies of Indian Passports - FIRST 2 AND LAST 2 PAGES • Copy of the Domicile Certificate issued by the Competent Authority • Copy of the Nativity Certificate from the Competent Authority • OCI Card of parents along with documents on the basis of which PIO/OCI card was issued • Any other proof substantiating the request. Note: If proof of Indian origin of parents is not available, the documents being provided should be sufficient to establish family lineage to prove Indian origin. If family lineage to prove Indian origin is not established, the application is liable to be rejected.
6.	PROOF OF LEGAL STATUS IN THE USA (IF HOLDING NON-USA PASSPORT) (The document must be self-attested). Please submit any one of the following documents: A. Copy of valid Green Card – Front and Back, OR B. Copy of valid EAD – Front and Back, OR C. Copy of valid long-term US visa, OR D. In case visa extension is pending, I-797A Approval Notice / I-797C Receipt Notice along with recently expired visa may be submitted.
7.	Proof of Marital Status (Married/Divorced/Widow) (The document must be self-attested): • Copy of the marriage certificate, if married. • Copy of the divorce decree, if divorced. If re-married, include a copy of the marriage certificate. • Copy of the Death certificate, if spouse is deceased. If a marriage certificate, or death certificate was issued by a foreign authority, it must be apostilled or attested by the concerned foreign Mission. Do not send original apostilled documents to VFS or Consulate office. We require self-attested copies of the apostilled documents instead. Marriage Certificate issued by any religious body is not acceptable.
8.	Parents' Marriage Certificate (This document applies only if the applicant is applying for OCI applications based on their parents). Note: If marriage certificate was issued by a foreign authority, it must be apostilled or concerned foreign mission. Do not send original apostilled documents to VFS or Consulate office. We require self-attested copies of the apostilled documents instead.

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9.	Name Change Document issued by the local court or a duly notarized affidavit regarding change in name. Previous name must invariably be mentioned in the OCI application, failing which the OCI application is liable to be rejected.
10.	Copy of Employment / Work Letter (the document must be self-attested): • If applicant is employed, a letter from the employer describing job profile of the applicant may be provided. • If applicant is self-employed / doing business, some documentary proof of self-employment/business may be provided. • If applicant is retired, some documentary proof regarding retirement and details of the last employer may be provided. • If applicant is a student, some documentary proof, e.g. admission letter, may be provided. • If applicants have never been employed/self-employed, a written statement may be submitted.
11.	Copies of naturalization certificates and current foreign passports of parents : If parents have acquired foreign nationality, copies of their naturalization certificates and current foreign passports may be provided. (The document must be self-attested).
12.	Copies of OCI cards issued to parents and spouse, if ever obtained and available (The document must be self-attested).
13.	Copy of Indian visa, if ever obtained and available (The document must be self- attested).
14.	Proof of address (the document must be self-attested): Proof of address must match with the present address as per application. Copy of any one of the following documents may be provided as proof of address: a) State issued Identity Card, OR b) Driving license, OR c) Utility bill – water / gas / electricity / telephone (Latest one, not more than 3 month old), OR d) Valid Lease Agreement, OR e) Mortgage, OR f) Income Tax Return, OR g) For college/university students living in university housing/dormitories, a letter from the institution on official letterhead giving details of the applicant's present address, OR h) In case of applicant residing with parents / children / relatives, a notarized undertaking from them with any copy of address proof as indicated above. Note: Expired documents like lease/driving license are not acceptable as valid proof of address. PO Box number is not acceptable as valid proof of address. Copy of Driver's License should not be cut down to smaller size.

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15	Proof of native address for non-US nationals living in the USA (the document must be self-attested): Non-US nationals residing in the USA on a valid long-term visa should submit address proof of their home country. In the absence of address proof, a notarized statement must be provided giving details of native address. Applicants having dual nationality should submit proofs of native address of both the countries. IMPORTANT NOTE: If any supporting document is in a foreign language other than English, it should be translated in English by authorized translator.
16	Affidavit in lieu of originals: A notarized affidavit needs to be submitted that the documents in support of the OCI application are true copies of the original documents, where only copies are being provided (please click here).
17	Undertaking by the OCI applicant (please click here).
18	Consent Letter, authorizing Indian Embassy/Consulate to make necessary corrections on observing errors in the OCI application (please click here). Note: Consent letter is just for the sake of facilitating an OCI applicant to avoid delay in processing the OCI application and it is not an assurance to edit the OCI application completely. The responsibility lies primarily with the applicant to fill in correct details in the OCI application. Also, that some details as per the OCI application are not editable subsequently. In some cases, the OCI application with errors is liable to be rejected and may be returned to the applicant for submitting fresh OCI application with correct details.
19	Fee Receipt: • Application confirmation letter/payment confirmation is mandatory. Complete the process online on VFS India Consular Application Centre's website to get the application confirmation letter/payment confirmation. • Don't forget to enclose the application confirmation receipt. If paying by Money Order or Banker's Check, it should be made in favor of "VFS Services (USA) Inc." PERSONAL CHECKS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE. Please ensure to update the correct details of the instrument (Money Order / Banker's Check). • Don't punch dummy information. Incorrect information may lead to rejection of your application. To complete registration on VFS Portal (Please click here).

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ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Documents in support of the OCI application must be uploaded online. The supporting documents (maximum size 1000kb) to be uploaded broadly fall under the following categories:

- i. Address proof
- ii. Current passport
- iii. Current Indian passport of parents / grandparents / great grandparents / spouse
- iv. Marriage Certificate
- v. Spouse passport
- vi. Joint declaration of subsisting of marriage
- vii. OCI Card
- viii. Indian origin proof
- ix. Indian visa
- x. PIO card
- xi. Spouse OCI card
- xii. Relationship certificate
- xiii. Previous Indian passport of self
- xiv. Previous Indian passport of parents / grandparents / great grandparents / spouse
- xv. OCI card of parents / grandparents / great grandparents / spouse
- xvi. Nativity certificate of self / parents / grandparents / great grandparents / spouse
- xvii. Domicile certificate of self / parents / grandparents / great grand parents
- xviii. Naturalization certificate of the applicant's current citizenship
- xix. Surrender certificate of Indian citizenship
- xx. Employment / work letter
- xxi. Legal status of parents (in case of minor applicants)
- xxii. Parental authorization (in case of minor applicants)

All the supporting documents, including those which may not be uploaded under broad categories, must be submitted with the application form as per the checklist.

Indian Embassy / Consulate reserves the right to ask for additional documents for processing the OCI application. Embassy/Consulate is under no obligation to inform reasons, if the OCI application is rejected and the decision of the Embassy/Consulate will be final.

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COMMON MISTAKES IN OCI APPLICATIONS RESULTING IN REJECTION

1. Poor quality of uploaded photo / signature. Please ensure to upload good quality photos and signature as per prescribed specifications.
2. All supporting documents not uploaded online.
3. Incorrect passport number / date of issue of passport
4. Incorrect name / place of birth / date of birth
5. Full names of parents / spouse not mentioned or not matching with their current legal names
6. Marital status / spouse name does not mention
7. Incorrect contact numbers and email address.
8. Part-B of OCI application not signed / Part-B (Minor Child) not signed by any of the parents
9. Previous name not mentioned (if there is change of name, kindly mention the same in relevant column of the application and provide supporting documents).
10. Incomplete postal address (please provide complete address ZIP code in the application).
11. Proof of native address not provided (proof of native address must be provided if application is being submitted in a country of residence other than home country).

USEFUL TIPS FOR FILLING OCI APPLICATION ONLINE

1. Please ensure that you have all the supporting documents in pdf and photo/signature in JPEG format as per specifications before starting online application.
2. Fill all the details in the application very carefully and exactly as per documents. Please ensure that all the details like full names, date of birth, place of birth are exactly as per current passport. Please note that the date of birth, if different from the one mentioned in the last held Indian passport, is not acceptable.
3. Upload all the supporting documents under their correct category / equivalent category (e.g. Birth Certificate can be uploaded under Relationship category). If you are unable to find suitable category to upload the document, please upload all the remaining documents (including any legal document) under current passport category along with current passport. **MOST IMPORTANT IS TO UPLOAD ALL THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS.**
4. Kindly check all the details of the OCI application once printed. In case photo/signature and documents are not uploaded properly, these can be uploaded easily by selecting appropriate option (Re-upload image/upload/reupload documents) available on the website.

Please note that the file reference number required to re-upload photo/signature/documents is written vertically on left side and also below the bar code at the bottom of first page of application form submitted online.

In case any information is wrong, please fill in the form again.