

What is the N-648?

This form is intended for applicants for U.S. citizenship who seek an exception to the English and civics testing requirements for naturalization "because of physical or developmental disability or mental impairment", (statement from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services website).

The N-648 waiver is used in the Citizenship Application Process to request a Medical Waiver exemption from the educational requirement. The N-648 provides detailed documentation of disability, and must demonstrate that due to physical, developmental or mental impairment that has lasted at least 12 months, the applicant is **UNABLE** to demonstrate basic English or US history/civics. This form may **ONLY** be completed by a M.D., D.O., or Licensed Clinical Psychologist.



General Requirements for citizenship application:

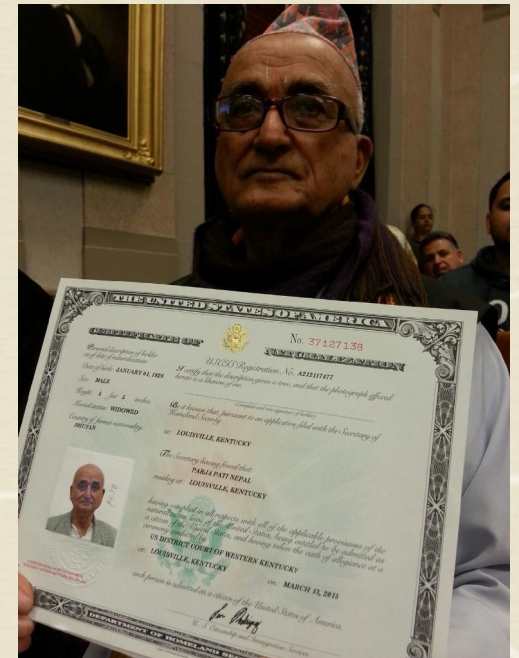
- ~ Must be 18 years of age,
- ~ Be a lawful permanent resident,
- ~ Must have lived in the US for five years,
- ~ Reside in the US,
- ~ Be of good moral character,
- ~ Affirm the US pledge of allegiance, and
- ~ Complete the Educational Requirement by demonstrating English language skill and understanding of US civics.

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THE N-648

COMPLETING THE DISABILITY WAIVER FOR CITIZENSHIP





List of Possible Instruments (varying degrees of cultural validity)

Cognitive

RUDAS Rowland Universal Dementia Assessment Scale cost: free

Weschler Adult Intelligence Scale-Digit

Montreal Cognitive Assessment
mocatest.org cost: free

Mini Mental Status Exam
some cross-cultural validity, National Institute on Aging, cost: \$2-\$5

Depression and Anxiety

Hopkins Symptom Checklist-25

RHS-15

Functional

Functional Activities Questionnaire
National Institute on Aging- Free

WHODAS-2 Online- Free

Memory & Intelligence

Test of Non-verbal Intelligence-4
Pearson's, \$10.00

Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test

Weschler Nonverbal Scale of Ability

The EXAM and REPORT

The evaluating exam must be completed in person, although other personnel can assist but the signing professional is responsible for certification; the form must be completed in Black ink, BE LEGIBLE and use common terminology without abbreviations. Answer all questions completely. Impairment from illegal drug use does not qualify, but illiteracy as a result of another impairment does qualify. For best results, do not use acronyms, but rather use common terminology.

Part 1- Applicant Information- Completed by Applicant

Part 2- Medical Professional Information-Completed by M.D., D.O. or Licensed Clinical Psychologist

Part 3- Disability and Impairment Report-Guidance below



GUIDANCE for N-648 Part 3 DISABILITY AND IMPAIRMENT REPORT

Q- 1- Clinical diagnosis, DSM if possible.

Q- 2- Basic description of impairment.

Q- 3 Date of first examination and last examination.

Q- 5 State whether provider regularly treats this patient for this diagnosis, If NOT, explain.

Q- 8 Length and cause of impairment.

Q- 9 Method of diagnosis. (See attached list of recommended instruments.)

Q-10 The Nexus question: The provider must provide a clear description of the IMPACT of the diagnosis on the applicant's capacity, and HOW the condition affects the applicant's ability to demonstrate the knowledge of English and Civics.

The provider must answer the question of how, in your opinion, does the applicant's impairment prevent him or her from demonstrating: the ability to read English, write English, speak English, as well as, answer questions regarding the US history and civics, even in a language the applicant understands.

To successfully complete the NEXUS the Provider should explain **the nature and extent of the causal connection** of the condition as it relates to the applicant's inability to complete the educational requirements. The provider must state the link between disability and patient's inability to complete the educational portion of the application. It is important that provider contextualize the impact of refugee trauma or torture.

Q- 11 What Educational Requirements does the applicant need to waive?

Q- 12 Whether an interpreter was used, And, If so, the Interpreter must complete the certification section. Medical personnel and Applicant must also certify with signature. Phone interpreters are documented by the medical professional.