



CITIZENSHIP EVENTS

Held year-round, our citizenship application assistance events provide free legal assistance to lawful permanent residents applying for U.S. citizenship. These events are made possible through the work of experienced lawyers, paralegals, and hundreds of trained volunteers.

Services Offered

Throughout the year, over two thousand lawful permanent residents receive an assessment of their eligibility for citizenship, at no cost. Other free services provided at these events include a determination of participants' eligibility for a fee waiver, assistance filling out the fee waiver form, and photos.

The Process

A citizenship application event starts at a screening station where trained attorneys and Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) accredited representatives screen participants for eligibility. Participants then move to an application assistance station where our volunteers and staff go over each question on the N-400 form. Next, they move to a photo/photocopy station, and last to a checkout station where we double-check their eligibility and the completed application packet. One station is a unique feature at our citizenship events: we always have a fee waiver station to help those who meet certain criteria apply for a waiver of the application and biometrics fees. Not every participant goes through this station, but only those who are determined to be fee-waiver eligible at the screening station.

Supporters

Our citizenship events have earned the support of people influential in immigration, including several New York City Council members, the New York City Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA), and the New Americans Campaign (NAC).

Upcoming Events

Application assistance events typically occur twice per month and are neighborhood based. Check out our website for upcoming events.

CUNY Citizenship Now! Citywide Citizenship Application Assistance Event

This is the largest application assistance event offered in New York City. It has the same format as our application assistance events, and the capacity to help several hundred prospective citizens in a single day.

Our citywide event is expanding every year. At the 2014 event at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, volunteers helped 382 people in a single day.



Volunteers assist over 300 participants at our Citizenship Now Citywide Application Assistance Event.



One of the services we provide during our citizenship events is free passport sized photos that must be sent to USCIS with the citizenship application.



An eager Volunteer raises his "thumbs up" sign to signify that she is ready to assist another participant.



Two participants started the path to citizenship at one of our application assistance events.

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