

# Citizenship Events

[www.cuny.edu/citizenshipnow](http://www.cuny.edu/citizenshipnow)



**HELD YEAR-ROUND, OUR CITIZENSHIP APPLICATION ASSISTANCE EVENTS PROVIDE FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENTS APPLYING FOR U.S. CITIZENSHIP.** These events would be impossible without the work of experienced lawyers, paralegals, and the help of hundreds of trained volunteers.

## Services Offered

Yearly, close to 2,500 lawful permanent residents receive free citizenship application assistance at no cost. Other services provided at these events include a determination of participants' eligibility for a fee waiver, help in filling out the fee waiver form, and a citizenship guide.

## The Process

A citizenship application event starts at a screening station where trained attorneys and 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 photocopy station, and last to a checkout station where we double-check their eligibility and revise the completed application packet. A unique feature at our citizenship events is that at our screening station we determine if participants who meet certain criteria should apply for a waiver of the application and biometrics fees. We also help eligible participants complete the necessary fee waiver application forms.

## Supporters

Our citizenship events have earned the support of people and organizations influential in immigration, including 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 2016 event at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, volunteers helped 366 people in a single day.



Volunteers assist close to 2,500 participants at our citizenship events every year.



Three participants started the path to citizenship at our application assistance events.



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