

Overseas Naturalization for Spouses of Military Members

Certain eligible spouses of service members may naturalize abroad without traveling to the United States for any part of the naturalization process.

In general, to be eligible for naturalization abroad pursuant to section 319(e) of the INA, the permanent resident spouse of a member of the U.S. armed forces must:

- Be authorized to accompany the service member abroad pursuant to the member's official orders
- Be residing abroad with the member in marital union
- Meet the requirements of either Section 316(a) or 319(a) of the INA at the time of filing the naturalization application, except for the residence and physical presence requirements.

Section 319(a) applies to spouses of U.S. citizens who have been permanent residents for 3 years immediately preceding the date of filing the naturalization application and who have lived in marital union with their citizen spouses for at least those 3 years.

Section 316(a) applies to spouses who have been permanent residents for 5 years immediately preceding the date of filing the naturalization application.

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