

## Service-Public.fr

Le site officiel de l'administration française

This page has been automatically translated. Please refer to the page in French if needed.

# How do I get French citizenship?

Verified 29 August 2022 - Legal and Administrative Information Directorate (Prime Minister)

There are 2 main ways to obtain French nationality: the **declaration of nationality** and **naturalisation**.

The **declaration** concerns you **married** or if you have **relationship with a french person** (descendant, brother or sister...).

The **naturalisation** is subject to several conditions, in particular length of residence in France.

Special rules apply if **you were born in France to foreigners parents**.

Finally, you can **become French again** if you **lost French nationality**.

The approach varies according to you **born abroad or in France**.

## You were born abroad

You have been a foreign national since birth

### You live in France

You can become French **by declaration** if you **married** or have **relationship with French person** :

Your spouse is French (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2726?lang=en>)

You have a French child or grandchild (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F33430?lang=en>)

You have a French brother or sister (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F33800?lang=en>)

adopted by simple adoption (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F3070?lang=en>)

You were [collected](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F31919?lang=en) (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F31919?lang=en>) or by a French person.

You can become French **by naturalisation**, under conditions, if you are in one of the following situations:

You have been living in France **5 years or older**

You have refugee status

You come from a French and you speak french because it's your mother tongue

You come from a French-speaking country and have been educated 5 years or more in a French-language institution

You served in the French army

You joined the French army or an allied army in time of war

You have rendered exceptional services to France

You have graduated from a French higher education institution after 2 years of study

You can make (or have made) important services to France based on your abilities and talents

You have completed an exceptional integration journey (activities or actions carried out in the civic, scientific, economic, cultural or sports fields...)

**application for naturalisation** (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2213?lang=en>)

If you are in one of these situations, you can **make lang=en**

**Exceptionally**, French nationality may be granted to you:

On the proposal of the Minister of Defence, if you were injured during your engagement in the French army

On the proposal of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, if you are French-speaking and that you contribute by your activity to the influence of France.(<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F15830?lang=en>)

If you are in another situation, contact **naturalisation platform** that depends on **place where you live**.

## You live abroad

You can become French **by naturalisation**, under conditions, if you are in one of the following situations:

You work for the French State or an organisation whose activity is of particular interest for the French economy or culture

You stay in Monaco

You do your national service or are engaged in regular training of the French army

You are a national volunteer

application for naturalisation (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2213?lang=en>)  
If you are in one of these situations, you can **make**

If you are in another situation, contact **naturalisation platform** that depends on **place where you live**.

## You've already been a Frenchman

return to French by declaration (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F3071?lang=en>)

if you are in one of the following situations :

You have lost French nationality **following marriage** with a foreigner

You have lost French nationality **following a change in the nationality of your parents**

You exercised **public mandates**

If you are in **other**,  
reinstatement in french nationality is done by decree under conditions(<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2214?lang=en>)

## You were born in France

If you **born in France to foreigners parents**, you can become French by making **declaration** the court or the local court.

nationality declaration process varies according to your age(<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F295?lang=en>)

### FAQ

Can we have multiple nationalities? (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F334?lang=en>)

- [lang=en](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F334?lang=en))

In what cases is a child French? (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F3068?lang=en>)

- [lang=en](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F3068?lang=en))

Does a child born stateless in France become French? (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F3084?lang=en>)

- [lang=en](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F3084?lang=en))

### Additional topics

French naturalisation by decree (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2213?lang=en>)

- [lang=en](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2213?lang=en))  
[Service-Public.fr](https://www.service-public.fr)

French nationality by marriage (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2726?lang=en>)

- [lang=en](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2726?lang=en))  
[Service-Public.fr](https://www.service-public.fr)

French nationality of the ascendant (parent, grandparent...) of a French(<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F33430?lang=en>)

- [lang=en](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F33430?lang=en))  
[Service-Public.fr](https://www.service-public.fr)

French nationality of the brother or sister of a Frenchman(<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F33800?lang=en>)

- [lang=en](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F33800?lang=en))  
[Service-Public.fr](https://www.service-public.fr)

French nationality of adopted child(<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F3070?lang=en>)

- [lang=en](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F3070?lang=en))  
[Service-Public.fr](https://www.service-public.fr)

- French nationality of a child ([https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F31919?](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F31919?lang=en)  
lang=en)  
Service-Public.fr
- Reintegration into French nationality by declaration ([https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F3071?](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F3071?lang=en)  
lang=en)  
Service-Public.fr
- Reintegration into French nationality by decree ([https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2214?](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2214?lang=en)  
lang=en)  
Service-Public.fr
- French nationality of a child born in France to foreigners parents([https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F295?](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F295?lang=en)  
lang=en)  
Service-Public.fr