



Immigration and Naturalisation
Service
Ministry of Justice and Security

Appendix Civic integration examination abroad

A foreign national must sit the civic integration examination abroad if he is at least 18 years old. If the foreign national has reached the statutory pensionable age or is older, he need not sit the examination.

In some cases, a foreign national can be exempted on the basis of diplomas, certificates or other documents. The foreign national can also be eligible for exemption if special individual circumstances such as age, level of education, financial situation or medical situation gives rise thereto. The whole personal situation of the foreign national and all the circumstances put forward plus the keenness shown to want to pass the examination and the necessary efforts made in that respect, are considered in the evaluation whether the foreign national can be exempted from the obligation to pass the examination. Tick the situation that applies to the foreign national and enclose the requested documents with the application.

Period of validity of completed examination

The civic integration examination abroad consists of 3 parts. The examination is successfully completed when the foreign national has passed all 3 parts. When all parts have been passed, DUO sends the results of the completed examination by e-mail. The completed civic integration examination is valid for 1 year. The e-mail includes a PDF file with the results and the issue date (datum afgifte). The mvv must be applied for within 1 year of the issue date. Is the date of issue more than 1 year ago? Then the foreign national has to retake the examination.

Sending documentary evidence

If you send the application, you should enclose a certified copy of the requested diplomas, certificates and/or lists of marks. A certified copy contains a statement that the contents of the copy correspond with the original. A copy of the civic integration examination does not have to be certified. This statement must have been signed by a person (from an institution) who is authorised to do so. The statement must also contain: the name of this person, a date and a stamp of the school (or the municipality, the notary's office). A copy of a diploma may only be certified by the relevant educational institution. If it concerns a diploma that has not been issued in the Netherlands, the diploma or certificate must bear an apostille stamp.

> Please tick the applicable situation

The foreign national is exempt from the civic integration examination abroad

The foreign national is younger than 18 years old, or has reached the statutory pensionable age

The foreign national lived in the Netherlands for at least eight years during your school age (from the age of five until the end of the school year in which you reached the age of sixteen)

The foreign national must have been registered in the municipal personal records database during the above period.

The foreign national has one of the below diplomas, certificates or documents to which an exemption from the civic integration examination abroad applies

Please enclose one of the following additional pieces of evidence with the application:

- a copy of the civic integration diploma of the Civic Integration Act
- a diploma or certificate of a Dutch university, higher professional education (HBO), senior secondary vocational education (MBO) (at least level 2), pre-university education (VWO), senior general secondary education (HAVO), junior general secondary education (MAVO) or pre-vocational secondary education (VMBO), for example. The foreign national has such a diploma if the diploma states, for example: Higher Education and Research Act, Secondary Education Act 2020, Adult and Vocational Education Act or Part-Time Vocational Education Act. Education has to be given in Dutch;
- a 'Dutch as a Second Language' state examination diploma (programme I or II);
- a school diploma or certificate from Belgium or Suriname, obtained in Dutch-language education, with a passing mark for the subject of Dutch. It concerns the following diplomas: university degree, HBO, MBO (from level 2), VWO, HAVO, MAVO or VMBO, a comparable diploma or other document. The diploma or certificate must state the law on which it was issued. Also include a list of marks;
- a diploma, certificate or other document from Aruba, Curacao, or Sint Maarten, obtained in Dutch-language education, with a passing mark for the subject of Dutch. Also enclose the list of marks;
- a diploma, certificate or other document from the public bodies of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius or Saba, obtained in Dutch-language education, with a passing mark for the subject of Dutch. Also enclose the list of marks;
- a diploma from the European school of the European Baccalaureate. The foreign national must have finished the subject of Dutch as a first or second language. The foreign national must also have passed the subject of Dutch
- an International Baccalaureate Middle Years Certificate or an International General Certificate of Secondary Education or an International Baccalaureate. In that case, you must have passed the subject of Dutch;
- a civic integration certificate within the context of the Civic Integration (Newcomers) Act (Wet inburgering nieuwkomers or WIN) and the pertaining statement from the Regional Training Centre (ROC) showing that the 'listening', 'speaking', 'reading' and 'writing' parts were finished at at least
- level NT2-2 and the Social Orientation part at 80% if this test was done after 31 August 2001 or 85% if the test was done before 1 September 2001;
- a Civic Integration Certificate for Settled Migrants with level NT2 2 for the 'listening', 'speaking', 'reading' and 'writing' parts;
- a copy of the document 'Short Exemption Test' referred to in Article 2.7(2) of the Civic Integration Decree as it read until 1 January 2013, issued by the Education Executive Agency (Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs or DUO); or
- a copy of a decision from the DUO stating that no civic integration programme is determined, because the foreign national passed the test as referred to in Article 5(4) of the Civic Integration (Newcomers) Act.

The foreign national has Surinamese nationality and at least finished primary school in the Dutch language

Please enclose the following additional pieces of evidence and documents with your application:

If the foreign national at least finished primary school in Suriname before 25 November 1975, you should also enclose:

- a primary school (or higher) diploma or certificate and a statement from the Central Registry Office bearing an apostille and showing that the foreign national resided in Suriname at the time when he finished primary school or secondary school (see the explanation under 'Foreign documents' and 'Language' on page 2 of this form)

If the foreign national at least finished primary school in Suriname after 25 November 1975, you should also enclose:

- a school diploma or certificate issued by the Surinamese Ministerie van Onderwijs, Wetenschap en Cultuur (Ministry of Education, Science and Culture), obtained in Suriname and showing that the foreign national at least finished primary school or a course in the Dutch language, or a certificate from the Examination Centre of the Surinamese Ministerie van Onderwijs, Wetenschap en Cultuur (Ministry of Education, Science and Culture) showing this. The diploma, certificate or statement must bear an apostille.

If the foreign national attended a higher education course in the Netherlands, please also enclose:

- a copy of the Dutch education diploma

The foreign national will be staying with a foreign national who has a temporary asylum residence permit or a permanent asylum residence permit

- The foreign national wants to stay in the Netherlands for a temporary purpose of stay in accordance with the Civic Integration Act (in Dutch: Wet Inburgering).** Temporary purposes of stay according to the Civic Integration Act are: work on a self-employed basis; work as a highly skilled migrant; residence as a holder of an EU Blue Card holder; seasonal work; Intra Corporate Transferee (Directive 2014/66/EU); paid employment*; cross-border services; Researcher under Directive (EU) 2016/801; to gain work experience; work as non-privileged military or non-military civilian staff; study; looking for work and carrying out work whether or not as an employee; exchange; medical treatment; temporary humanitarian grounds; waiting for a request based on article 17 of the Netherlands Nationality Act; for a purpose of stay other than that as mentioned previously here whereby, when the residence permit is granted, it is stated that the purpose of stay is temporary **.

* Foreign nationals who want to work in the Netherlands as spiritual leaders must pass the basic civic integration examination abroad.

** Article 3.5, fourth paragraph, Aliens Decree (in Dutch: Artikel 3.5, vierde lid, Vreemdelingenbesluit).

- The foreign national wants to stay with a family member who has a residence permit in the Netherlands for a temporary purpose of stay as mentioned above**

- The foreign national wants to stay with a family member and this family member has a residence permit to work, for study, exchange, medical treatment, temporary humanitarian grounds, waiting for a request based on article 17 of the Netherlands Nationality Act, as a foreign investor, in accordance with the decision of the State Secretary***

* only if the decision states that the right of residence is temporary

- The foreign national will only perform work as a contemplative, internal officer or board member of a religious or ideological organization.**

Please note! You can only tick this exemption if the foreign national applies for the purpose of residence 'Spiritual counsellor'.

Please enclose with the application an employer's declaration containing a description of the nature of the work showing the religious or ideological nature of the activities.

The foreign national wants to obtain exemption from the civic integration examination abroad

□ The foreign national relies on special individual circumstances

Please enclose the following evidence and documents with the application:

- means of evidence in which you show that it concerns special individual circumstances due to which the foreign national is not able to prepare sufficiently and pass (one or more parts of) the civic integration examination abroad. Any individual circumstance which, according to you, should give reason to exempt the foreign national from the examination, may be submitted. Explain the details of the personal situation of the foreign national, such as: the unavailability of suitable course material, the level of education, the special need of care for one or more family members, the individual problems that the foreign national is experiencing because of the situation in the country of origin or permanent residence, etc.; and
- means of evidence which shows that the foreign national has made such efforts that could reasonably, be required in order to pass the civic integration examination abroad or to prepare for it. Enclose also the results of the taken exams. The results for each part of the civic integration examination could give an indication of the delivered efforts; and
- a copy of the medical questionnaire that is completed and signed by a doctor, who is appointed by the Dutch representation in the country of origin, when you want to put forward the medical situation of the foreign national as special individual circumstances. The statement of the counselor may not be older than six months upon submitting the MVV application.

Explanation: If the foreign national is obstructed from taking the civic integration examination abroad due to medical reasons (physical/ psychological), the foreign national must undergo a medical examination. This medical examination is carried out by a doctor who is appointed by the Dutch representation in the country of origin. The foreign national must give the physician permission to submit the completed medical questionnaire.

Processing of personal data

The Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND) processes personal data when it processes your application, notification, or request. This means that if needed the IND will request data from you yourself and other organisations or persons. The IND also uses and stores data and shares them with other organisations. When doing so, the IND strictly adheres to the stipulations of privacy legislation. For instance, the IND must treat data safely and with due care. The law also gives rights. At your request, you are allowed to see which data on you the IND processes. You can also get information on why the IND does so and to whom your data have been passed on. On www.ind.nl you can read how the IND processes your data and which rights you have. You can also read how to use your rights.