

## **ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTS TO VERIFY CHILD'S CITIZENSHIP OR IMMIGRATION STATUS AND AGE**

(Based on U.S. Department of Justice Interim Guidance on Verification of Citizenship, Qualified Alien Status and Eligibility Under Title IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, <http://www.dhhs.gov/ocr/nationalorigin/interimguidance.pdf>)

### **DOCUMENTATION FOR AGE AND CITIZENSHIP**

- Birth Certificate (U.S. or its possessions)
- U.S. Passport (must be current)
- Hospital or public health birth record (U.S. or its possessions)
- Church or Baptismal record (U.S. or its possessions)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, food stamp benefits, Medicaid, or other related public assistance records

### **DOCUMENTATION FOR CITIZENSHIP OR IMMIGRATION STATUS**

If no documentation listed under the documentation for age and citizenship category is available, then the following are other sources to verify a child's citizenship or immigration status:

#### U.S. Citizen

- Baptismal Certificate (if place of birth is shown)
- Report of birth abroad of U.S. citizen (FS-240) issued by U.S. Department of State
- Certificate of Birth (FS-545) issued by a foreign service post
- Certificate of U.S. Citizenship (N-561)
- Native American Tribal Document/Card (Form I-872)

#### Immigrant/"Qualified Alien"

- Naturalization Certification
- Lawful Permanent Resident: Alien Registration Receipt Card known as "green card" (Form I-551)
- Asylee: Forms I-94, I-688B (Employment Authorization Card), or I-766 (Employment Authorization Document); grant letter from the Asylum Office of the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS); or order of an immigration judge granting asylum
- Alien Whose Deportation or Removal was Withheld: Forms I-688B or I-766, or order from an immigration judge showing deportation withheld or removal withheld
- Refugee: Forms I-94, I-688B, or I-766
- Cuban/Haitian Entrant: Form I-551 known as "green card," unexpired temporary I-551 stamp in foreign passport or Form I-94
- Alien Granted Conditional Entry
- Alien Who Has Been Declared a Battered Alien or Alien Subjected to Extreme Cruelty: USCIS petition and supporting documentation

**DOCUMENTATION FOR AGE ONLY**

If no documentation listed under the other categories is available, then the following are other sources to verify the child's age:

- Adoption papers or records (U.S. or its possessions)
- Divorce and/or court custody decrees
- Bureau of Indian Affairs or Tribal records
- Immigration and Naturalization Service records
- Child support paternity records
- School records/Identification card