

The Act provides that a person born abroad who was a minor on January 1, 1947 automatically ceased to be a Canadian citizen on his 24th birthday or on January 1, 1954, whichever was later, unless he had his place of domicile in Canada at such date or had, before such date and after reaching the age of 21 years, filed a declaration of retention of Canadian citizenship.

A person born outside Canada after December 31, 1946, whose responsible parent is considered a Canadian citizen under the terms of the Canadian Citizenship Act, is a Canadian if his birth is registered with the Registrar of Canadian Citizenship within two years of its occurrence or within such extended period as the Minister may authorize in special cases.

A person who becomes a natural-born Canadian citizen in this manner will automatically cease to be a Canadian citizen if he fails to file a declaration of retention prior to his 24th birthday or does not have his place of domicile in Canada on that date.

Newfoundland and Canadian citizenship. On April 1, 1949 Newfoundland became the 10th province of Canada and every person born therein or naturalized or every British subject who had domicile in Newfoundland on that date or every woman who married a citizen of Newfoundland and took up residence there before April 1, 1949 became a Canadian citizen. They acquired the right of conferring Canadian citizenship by descent on their children born outside Newfoundland in the same manner as those who had previously become Canadians. Persons born outside Newfoundland to Newfoundland parents are natural-born Canadian citizens provided they were either minors on April 1, 1949 or had before that date been lawfully admitted to Canada or Newfoundland for permanent residence. However, a person who was a minor on April 1, 1949 ceased to be a Canadian on his 24th birthday or on July 1, 1968, whichever was later, unless he had his place of domicile in Canada at that date or had filed a declaration of retention of Canadian citizenship after reaching the age of 21 years. A person born outside Canada to Newfoundland parents after March 31, 1949 is a natural-born Canadian if his birth is registered with the Registrar of Canadian Citizenship within two years of its occurrence or within such extended period as the Minister may authorize in special cases. A person who becomes a natural-born Canadian in this manner will automatically cease to be a Canadian citizen if he fails to file a declaration of retention prior to his 24th birthday or does not have his place of domicile in Canada on that date.

Canadian citizens other than natural-born. Before the 1953 amendments to the Citizenship Act, the only persons who acquired Canadian citizenship on January 1, 1947 through the transitional clauses of Section 9 were persons naturalized in Canada before that date, British subjects who had Canadian domicile at the commencement of the Act and women lawfully admitted to Canada and married prior to January 1, 1947 whose husbands would have qualified as Canadian citizens if the Act had come into force before the date of marriage. Section 9 was amended on June 1, 1953 so that a British subject domiciled in Canada for at least 20 years immediately before January 1, 1947 need not comply with the requirements of Canadian domicile provided he was not under an order of deportation on January 1, 1947.

Acquisition of Canadian citizenship by aliens or British subjects. An adult non-Canadian British subject or an alien who wishes to become a Canadian must formally file an application for citizenship. The non-Canadian British subject may file an application direct with the Registrar of Canadian Citizenship, whereas an alien must file an application through his local court, or through one of the special citizenship courts now established or, if he lives more than 50 miles from a court, he may mail his application to the Registrar of Canadian Citizenship in Ottawa, who will file it with the appropriate court.

After the application has been posted for three months, he is called to appear before the court for examination. In either case the same requirements apply: (1) He must have resided in Canada for 12 of the 18 months immediately preceding the date of his application. (2) He must have been lawfully admitted to Canada for permanent residence and either have acquired Canadian domicile before July 7, 1967, or have resided in Canada for five of the eight years immediately preceding the filing of his application. (Persons living in Canada before obtaining landed-immigrant status may count half of each full year before landing toward the residence qualification. The wife of a Canadian needs only to be admitted for permanent residence and reside in Canada for one year.) (3) He must be of good character and not under an order of deportation. (4) He must have an adequate knowledge of either English or French or, alternatively, be the spouse, widow or widower of a Canadian or, either be 40 or more years of