

Intro

- Both the US and Ireland governments recognize dual citizenship. You do not have to renounce citizenship.
- I am not an attorney nor have I played one on TV.
- This information is from the perspective of an US citizen seeking Irish citizenship (dual).

Benefits of Dual Citizenship – claimed by the referenced websites

<http://www.irishclub.org/citizenship.htm>

- “breezing through immigration on trips throughout the European Union”
 - (Requires an Irish passport which involves a separate application process.)
- “greater ability to find work in the EU”

<http://www.irishdualcitizenship.com/>

- “Irish citizens can RECEIVE CHECKS from BOTH the Irish Pension system and U.S. Social Security benefits.”
- “University or College Tuition for Irish or any European Union citizen averages about \$1500/Year in Tuition at most schools in Ireland or England and no special visas are required.”
- “Universal Medical Care is STANDARD in Western Europe with health care standards some of the highest in the world and you are not limited to a particular country to receive your care in.”
- “THE UNITED STATES IS THE ONLY COUNTRY THAT DOES NOT REGULATE THE COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.”
- “You may LIVE, WORK OR RETIRE IN ANY COUNTRY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION ONCE YOU ARE A CITIZEN OF ANY EUROPEAN UNION COUNTRY.”
- “You may PURCHASE REAL ESTATE IN ANY EUROPEAN COUNTRY AND GET THE SAME INTEREST RATES FROM EUROPEAN LENDERS that native-born citizens get.”
- “LOWEST CORPORATE TAX RATES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU)”
- “INDIVIDUAL Income Tax Rates can be MUCH Lower.”

Requirements

- If you were born in Ireland or one of your parents was born in Ireland, you are considered an Irish citizen.
- If one of your parents or grandparents was born in Ireland and you were born outside of Ireland, you need to register as a Foreign Born Citizen.
- If one of your parents is a naturalized Irish citizen, you may register as a Foreign Born Citizen.
- If one of your parents became an Irish citizen via the dual citizen process, you may register as a Foreign Born Citizen.
- HOWEVER, if your parent achieves Irish citizenship AFTER you were born, you are NOT eligible.
- The applicant must be alive.
- “Every person born *on the island of Ireland* [italics mine] before 1 January, 2005 is entitled to be an Irish citizen.” – [Irish Embassy website](#)
 - Born on or after 1 Jan 2005 see <http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/WP07000113>

Documentation

- Application forms for Foreign Births Registration:
 - [FBR Application Form FB1A \(PDF 459kb\)](#) - if over 18 years.
 - [FBR Application Form FB1B \(PDF 476kb\)](#) - if under 18 years.
- Required supporting documentation (certified copies only)
 - Applicant documents:
 - Full civil birth certificate (including parents' name and place of birth);
 - Civil marriage certificate(s) (if applicable);
 - Copy of current US passport (proof of citizenship);
 - Two photographs of applicant;
 - Proof of current address;
 - Fee – “Details of related fees in local currencies will be provided on request by the Department of Foreign Affairs or the Irish Diplomatic or Consular Mission nearest to where the applicant normally resides.” – [Irish Embassy website](#) (in 2000, the fee was ~\$174)
 - Parent documents (for the 1 parent you are using):
 - Full civil birth certificate (including parents' name and place of birth);
 - Civil marriage certificate (if applicable);
 - Copy of current passport, if alive, or death certificate;
 - If parent has been naturalized or obtained foreign birth registration, original certificates must be included.
 - Grandparent documents (for the 1 grandparent you are using):
 - Full civil birth certificate if born after 1864, otherwise a baptismal certificate; together with proof that no civil registration exists;
 - Civil marriage certificate (if applicable);
 - Copy of current passport, if alive, or death certificate;

Procuring Civil Registration Documents (birth/marriage/death) for the US

- Not universally kept until about 1890, varies by state
- New York State required bmd in 1880, but some areas started earlier.
- Rochester Public Library has index for NYS – does NOT include 5 boroughs of NYC nor Buffalo & Albany before 1915
- The fastest way to procure a civil registration certificate is to visit the City Hall or Town/County Clerk at the location where the certificate was issued. Prices are typically \$10 to \$30.
- Note that marriage certificates are not necessarily issued where the marriage takes place. Death certificates are issued at the location of the death which may be different than the residence of the deceased.
- Note that Catholics in the 1800s usually did NOT purchase a marriage certificate.
- For New York State certificates: http://www.health.state.ny.us/vital_records/death.htm
- Where to Write for Vital Records in the US <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w.htm> or www.vitalrec.com.

Procuring Civil Registration Documents (birth/marriage/death) for Ireland

- Civil Registrations (bmd), (non-Catholic marriages start 1845, all bmd 1864)
- Search Irish (1845-1958) civil registrations FREE at:
<https://www.familysearch.org/s/collection/list#page=1&countryId=1927084>
 - Births 1864-1921 for all Ireland
Births 1922-1958 for Republic of Ireland
 - Marriages 1845-1864 for all Ireland (only non-Catholic marriages)
Marriages 1864-1921 for all Ireland
Marriages 1922-1958 for Republic of Ireland
 - Deaths 1864-1921 for all Ireland
Deaths 1922-1958 for Republic of Ireland
- Another FREE source for Irish BMD is www.birthsdeaths marriages.ie
- Info for ordering certificates: http://www.groireland.ie/apply_for_a_cert.htm
- Civil Registrations (bmd) for Northern Ireland, 1922-1958. These are NOT yet included in the familysearch online index above. Indexes on microfilm may be rented at a local Family History Center (see locations at <https://www.familysearch.org/locations>). To see available indexes [see catalog](#) and scroll to “Ireland – Civil Registration”
 - Births 1922-1958
 - Marriages 1922-1958
 - Deaths 1922-1958
- Another FREE source for Irish BMD is www.birthsdeaths marriages.ie
- Info for ordering certificates for Northern Ireland: <http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/gro>
 - On this site, certificates are available for birth, marriage, and death from 1864 to present (also non-Catholic marriages from 1845) for the counties that currently form Northern Ireland. Northern Ireland did not exist prior to 1922.

Irish Passport, <http://www.dfa.ie/home/index.aspx?id=253>

- Irish citizens are entitled to an Irish Passport
- If you live in the US, you need to go through the Irish Embassy or one of several Consulate General Offices:
 - Embassy of Ireland
 - 2234 Massachusetts Avenue N.W
 - Washington D.C. 20008-2849
 - Telephone: 202 462-3939
 - Fax: 202 232-5993
 - Website: www.embassyofireland.org
 - Consulate General of Ireland
 - Ireland House
 - 345 Park Avenue - 17th Floor
 - New York, NY 10154-0037
 - Telephone: 212 319-2555
 - Fax: 212 980-9475
 - Website: www.consulateofirelandnewyork.org