IRISH RESEARCHERS

Foreign Births Register document checklist

Rules checked November 2026. Use with the free eligibility checker at irishresearchers.com/irish-citizenship-eligibility-checker/

For you (the applicant)

- [ ] **Online FBR application form, signed and witnessed**
  Apply at fbr.dfa.ie, print, sign in front of your witness and post with everything below.
- [ ] **Original long-form birth certificate showing your parents**
  Your state or county vital records office. Originals are returned by registered post.
- [ ] **Original marriage certificate or name-change document (if your name changed)**
  County clerk or state vital records office.
- [ ] **Certified photocopy of your current photo ID (e.g. US passport or driver's license)**
  Certified by your witness. Never send the original.
- [ ] **Two separate original proofs of address**
  For example, recent utility or bank statements.
- [ ] **Four colour passport photos**
  Your witness signs and dates the back of two. Don't attach them to the form.

For your parent (the link to Ireland)

- [ ] **Original long-form birth certificate**
  State vital records office.
- [ ] **Original marriage certificate or name-change document (if applicable)**
  County clerk or state vital records office.
- [ ] **If living: certified photocopy of photo ID. If deceased: original death certificate**
  ID certified by a witness; death certificate from state or county vital records.
- [ ] **Their FBR certificate (great-grandparent route, or if your parent is on the register)**
  Your parent's own records.

For your Irish-born grandparent

- [ ] **Original full Irish civil birth certificate**
  Born in the Republic, or anywhere in Ireland 1864 to 1921: GRO Ireland via the HSE (€20). Born in Northern Ireland from 1922: GRONI via nidirect (order the full certificate).

- [ ] **Born before 1864: baptismal certificate**
  The parish where they were baptised. Civil registration began in 1864, and the DFA accepts a baptismal certificate instead.

- [ ] **Original marriage certificate (if applicable)**
  Often a US record for emigrants: county clerk or state vital records.

- [ ] **If living: certified photocopy of photo ID. If deceased: original death certificate**
  Usually a US state or county vital records office.

Your witness

Someone who knows you personally, is not a relative, and currently works in a listed profession (for example police officer, doctor, lawyer, teacher or accountant).

- [ ] **Signs and stamps your application form**
  If they have no official stamp, enclose their business card.

- [ ] **Signs and dates two of your photos and certifies your ID copy**
  The same witness does all of this.

Missing a record? Irish Researchers finds and retrieves the records you need. Free consultation: irishresearchers.com/free-consultation/ or call 866-632-9291.
A guide, not legal advice. Requirements change; confirm with your consulate before you apply.