

## The Option

Luxembourgish nationality can be acquired by naturalisation or by option. In this second video, we will only discuss acquisition by option.

This is a simplified procedure that applies in 10 specific cases.

Children born in Luxembourg can obtain nationality from the age of 12, if they have resided in Luxembourg for the five years preceding their application. In the case of children born after 2013, one of the parents must also have resided legally in Luxembourg for at least one year before their birth.

People who have completed at least 7 years of education in Luxembourg must have resided here for an uninterrupted period of at least one year before they can apply. If the applicants were not born in Luxembourg or have not studied here for 7 years but they arrived before the age of 18, they have to meet 4 criteria: they must have resided in Luxembourg for at least 5 years; they must have passed the Luxembourgish language test; they must have completed the 'Vivre ensemble au GDL' (Living together in the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg) course, and they have to satisfy the conditions of good repute.

Any adult may also apply for nationality by option:

- if s/he is the parent of a Luxembourgish child who is still a minor
- if one of his/her parents, grandparents or adoptive parents is or was a Luxembourgish national
- if s/he is married to a Luxembourgish national
- if s/he has been legally resident in Luxembourg for at least 20 years
- if s/he has fulfilled the terms of the Welcome and Integration Contract
- if s/he has 'stateless person', 'refugee' or 'subsidiary protection' status
- if s/he has been a voluntary soldier for at least one year.

Anyone who is the parent of a Luxembourgish child; who has completed the Welcome and Integration Contract; who is stateless or benefits from international protection must meet the 4 criteria mentioned above.

The criterion of residence does not apply to people married to a Luxembourgish national. But if the couple lives abroad, they must have been married for three years. In any case, they must pass the Luxembourgish language and civic education examinations.

People who have legally resided in Luxembourg for at least 20 years must only prove that they have completed a Luxembourgish course of at least 24 hours, and they do not necessarily have to pass the examination.

Finally, persons with a Luxembourgish parent, grandparent or adoptive parent; or voluntary soldiers having served for at least one year, can request nationality under the sole condition of good repute.

The declaration of option must be submitted to the commune of residence. The civil registrar forwards it directly to the Ministry of Justice. If the Minister does not oppose, nationality is automatically granted after a period of 4 months.

For any further questions on the procedure, including those regarding the supporting documents to be submitted to the commune at the time of the application, please call 8002 1000, a dedicated hotline set up by the Ministry of Justice. Advisors are available from Monday to Friday during business hours.