

RETENTION OF SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZENSHIP

An adult South African citizen who intends to apply for foreign citizenship, but who does not want to lose his/ her South African citizenship, must first apply for the retention of South African citizenship, which must be done and be approved before acquisition of the other citizenship.

General information about South African citizenship is available on the website of the Department of Home Affairs: <http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/civic-services/citizenship>.

Documents to be submitted when applying for the retention of South African citizenship:

- **Form BI-1664** to be fully completed **in block letters and in black ink**
- **Form BI-529** to be fully completed **in block letters and in black ink**
 - Applicants must ensure that the information furnished is true and correct.
 - The form must be fully completed **in block letters and in black ink**, dated and signed by the applicant – questions that don't apply may be completed with 'n/a'; if answers to certain questions are not known, they should be marked as 'Do not know'.
 - Questions 9, 10, 11 of Part A are of particular importance.
 - 'Identity number' refers only to South African 13-digit identity numbers; where an 'identity number' is not applicable or unknown, the space should be completed accordingly.
- **The applicant's original South African passport.**
 - A photocopy of the passport page with the applicant's biometric data/photograph and residence permit for Kazakhstan, as applicable, must also be submitted.
 - The applicant's **original** passport must be submitted regardless of whether it is still valid or expired..
The original document will be given back to the applicant.
- **The applicant's original South African identity document.**
 - A photocopy of the document must also be submitted.
The original document will be given back to the applicant.
- **The applicant's South African unabridged birth certificate.**
 - A photocopy of the document must also be submitted.
The original document will be given back to the applicant
- **Written confirmation from the relevant authorities of the country, whose citizenship the applicant intends to acquire, that the applicant has not yet acquired the citizenship of that country**
 - If not in English, such document must be translated into English and certified as a correct translation by a sworn translator at the expense of the applicant.
- **Payment of the prescribed application fee of 7743 KZT**
Ref. : Retention of South African citizenship; (applicant's name)

Payment of the above-mentioned application fee should be paid after submitting the application.

Bank details:

Beneficiary name	South African Embassy in Kazakhstan
Bank name	JSC «First Heartland Jysan Bank»
Address	62a Kosmonavtov Street, 7 th floor, Astana
BIN	040150020673
SWIFT/BIC	TSESKZKA
Iban Number	KZ55998BTB0000487976
Currency	KZT
Code of payment purpose	859
Code of Beneficiary:	21

NOTE:

- Upon registration of retention of South African citizenship at the Department of Home Affairs in Pretoria, a certificate confirming the retention is issued.

- All forms which are available for download are also available as printed forms at the Embassy in Astana. **Applicants are however encouraged to print and complete forms at home**, in order to avoid unnecessary delays and long waiting periods when they submit the applications in person. Applicants who print forms at home must however ensure that they use high quality paper and the forms they print are legible; forms may be printed in colour or black and white.

- A complete application must be submitted by the applicant in person during the consular opening hours: Mon-Fri; 09:00-12:30, except public holidays, by appointment.

- Application forms must not be folded.

- All applicants must submit photocopies of personal documents together with the original documents e.g. passports, identity documents, birth marriage and death certificates, and divorce decrees – the photocopies would be certified by a consular official free of charge and the original personal documents returned/handed back to the applicants.

- Applications submitted at the Embassy in Astana are sent free of charge to the Department of Home Affairs **in Pretoria, where applications are finalised and new documents issued**, with the diplomatic freight bag once a month. In the case of urgent applications, applicants may opt to organise and pay for a courier service to collect their applications from our office and have it delivered directly to the Department in Pretoria – applicants who would like to make use of this option should confirm this in writing when submitting their applications.

- After the application has been sent to the Department of Home Affairs in Pretoria, it may take up to 6 months for the application to be finalised and the newly issued document to reach the office of application / South African mission abroad. **Status/progress reports are not provided to applicants by the mission during the above-mentioned processing period**; applicants may however contact the Department of Home Affairs Contact Centre themselves about their application status: hacc@dha.gov.za.

- As soon as the newly issued document reaches the office of application/South African mission abroad, the applicants would be duly notified.
- Due to the long-term nature of applications/processing period, applicants are kindly requested to keep our office informed of any change of address during the processing period.
- The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (formerly, Department of Foreign Affairs) offers a voluntary registration service for South African citizens that are travelling or residing abroad. This service is provided in the event there is a need to contact you to offer urgent advice on a natural disaster or civil unrest or a family emergency. Information may be submitted by a South African citizen via the [ROSA Online Registration form](#).