

Official Gazette – Issue No (1066)

Royal Decree No 38/2014
Promulgating the Omani Citizenship Law

We Qaboos bin Said, The Sultan of Oman

Having perused the Basic Statute of the State issued by virtue of Royal Decree No 101/96 and the Law on the Organization of the Omani Citizenship issued by virtue of Royal Decree No (3/83);

And in pursuance of the public interest;

Have decreed as follows:

Article (1):

The provisions of the Omani Citizenship Law attached hereto shall be enforced as per the attached text.

Article (2):

The Minister of Interior shall issue the Executive Summary and resolutions required for the implementation of the provisions of the law attached hereto. It shall be noted that the current effective resolutions shall continue to be enforced until the issuance of the aforesaid Executive Summary and resolutions unless otherwise provided for in a particular text in this regard and without any prejudice to the provisions of the law attached hereto.

Article (3):

The aforementioned Law on the Organization of the Omani Citizenship, in addition to all what contravenes with this decree or contradicts with its provisions shall be deemed repealed.

Article (4):

This decree shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into force six months following the date of its publication.

Issued on : 15 Shawwal 1435 A.H

Corresponding to : 12 August 2014 A.D

Qaboos bin Said
Sultan of Oman

Omani Citizenship Law
Chapter One
Definitions and General Provisions

Article (1)

In the implementation of the provisions of this law, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings shown against each of them, unless the context indicates otherwise:

- **Ministry:** Ministry of Interior.
- **Minister:** Minister of Interior.
- **Alien:** Any person who is not Omani national.
- **Lawful Age:** A person who completed eighteen Gregorian years of age.
- **Minor:** Any person who has not yet completed eighteen Gregorian years of age.
- **Summary:** The Executive Summary of this law.

Article (2)

The terms specified in this law shall be counted in the Gregorian calendar.

Article (3)

All citizenship applications shall be submitted to the Ministry that shall study these applications and make decisions in this regard as per the regulations and procedures provided for in the Executive Summary. It shall be noted that the Ministry reserves the right to reject any application without providing any reason whatsoever.

Article (4)

The courts are not the competent authority to deliberate citizenship issues and conflicts relating thereto.

Article (5)

It is not permissible to hold the Omani citizenship along with the citizenship of another country unless a Royal Decree authorizes a person to do so.

Article (6)

Omani citizens may not renounce their nationality in favor of another until they have fulfilled their obligations and commitments towards the Sultanate.

Underage children shall not lose their Omani citizenship following their father's renunciation unless he has requested it and his new citizenship is granted to them as well.

Article (7)

The Omani citizenship may only be granted, renounced, reacquired, withdrawn or lost by virtue of a Royal Decree at the recommendation of the Minister.

Article (8)

The Omani citizenship may be granted or reacquired by virtue of a Royal Decree without abiding by the conditions and provisions provided for in this law.

Article (9)

A person who is granted the Omani citizenship or to whom the Omani citizenship is returned in accordance with the provisions of this law shall have the right to exercise the civil rights as per the laws and summaries enforced as of the date of entry into effect of the Royal Decree issued in this regard.

Article (10)

The Executive Summary shall specify the requirements, documents and certificates related to the citizenship issues, conditions and procedures in addition to the fees imposed thereon following the approval of the Ministry of Finance.

Chapter Two

Original Citizenship and Reacquisition of the Original Citizenship

Article (11)

A person shall be deemed Omani national in the following cases:

1. If he is born in Oman or abroad and his father, at the time of birth, was Omani national.
2. If he is born in Oman or abroad and his mother, at the time of birth, was Omani national and his father was Omani and became stateless.
3. If he is born in Oman or abroad and his mother, at the time of birth, was an alien and his father was Omani and became stateless, provided that the marriage of the parents was previously approved by the Ministry.
4. If he is born in Oman or abroad and his mother, at the time of birth, was Omani national and the paternity was not confirmed.
5. If he was born in Oman for unknown parents.

Article (12)

Without prejudice to the provisions of Article (6) of this law, the Omani national who renounced his citizenship and acquired another citizenship shall have the right to reacquire the Omani citizenship if he meets the following conditions:

1. A person shall be residing in Oman or returning to Oman provided to declare his wish to settle therein.
2. A person shall have good conduct and character.
3. A person shall not be convicted of any crime or offence in breach of trust or honor unless he was exonerated.
4. A person shall not be suffering from contagious diseases.
5. A person shall declare in written his wish to renounce the citizenship of the other country and shall submit legal evidence proving that he has the right to do so.

Minor children have the right to reacquire the Omani citizenship like their father, provided that the law of the foreign country allows them to renounce their foreign citizenship.

Article (13)

A child who lost his Omani citizenship due to the renunciation of his father of his Omani citizenship shall have the right to claim the reacquisition of the same as per the following conditions:

1. A person shall submit a claim within five years as of completing eighteen Gregorian years of age.
2. A person shall meet the conditions provided for in Article (12) of this law.

Chapter Three Acquirement of Citizenship

Article (14)

The Omani citizenship shall only be granted one time in accordance with the provisions of this law.

Article (15)

An alien has the right to apply for the Omani citizenship if he meets the following conditions:

1. A person should have resided in Oman for at least twenty (20) continuous years or fifteen (15) years if married to an Omani woman provided that their marriage shall have taken place after obtaining approval of the Ministry and he shall have a son from his Omani wife. It shall be noted that the continuous residency period shall not be interrupted if the person is travelling outside of Oman for a period that does not exceed sixty (60) days in one year.
2. A person shall be fluent in reading and writing the Arabic language.
3. A person shall have good conduct and character.
4. A person shall not have been convicted of any crime or offence in breach of trust or honor, even if he has been exonerated.
5. A person shall be medically fit and shall not be suffering from contagious diseases, as defined in the Executive Summary of this law.
6. A person shall have a legitimate source of income enough to provide for himself and his dependents.
7. A person shall declare in written his wish to renounce his current nationality and shall submit legal evidence proving that he has the right to do so.

Minor children shall acquire the Omani citizenship from their father, if they were born or were permanent residents in Oman.

Article (16)

The foreign wife of an Omani citizen may apply for Omani nationality if she meets the following conditions:

1. Her marriage should have taken place after obtaining the prior approval from the Ministry; this condition shall not apply if the marriage took place before the acquirement of the Omani citizenship by the husband.
2. She shall have a son from her Omani husband.
3. She should have been married to her Omani husband and resided with him in Oman for at least ten (10) legitimate continuous years; It shall be noted that the continuous residency period shall not be interrupted if she is travelling outside of Oman for a period that does not exceed sixty (60) days in one year.
4. She shall be able to verbally communicate in the Arabic language.
5. She shall have good conduct and character.
6. She shall not have been convicted of any crime or offence in breach of trust or honor, unless she has been exonerated.
7. She shall declare in written her wish to renounce her current nationality and shall submit legal evidence proving that she has the right to do so.

Article (17)

The widowed or divorced foreign wife of an Omani citizen may apply for Omani nationality if she meets the following conditions:

1. Her marriage should have taken place after obtaining the prior approval from the Ministry; this condition shall not apply if the marriage took place before the acquirement of the Omani citizenship by the husband.
2. She shall have a son from her Omani husband.
3. She should have been married to her Omani husband and resided with him in Oman for at least fifteen (15) legitimate continuous years; It shall be noted that the continuous residency period shall not be interrupted if she is travelling outside of Oman for a period that does not exceed sixty (60) days in one year.
4. She shall not be married to an alien.
5. She shall be able to verbally communicate in the Arabic language.
6. She shall have good conduct and character.
7. She shall not have been convicted of any crime or offence in breach of trust or honor, unless she has been exonerated.
8. She shall be medically fit and shall not be suffering from contagious diseases, as defined in the Executive Summary of this law.
9. She shall declare in written her wish to renounce her current nationality and shall submit legal evidence proving that she has the right to do so.

Article (18)

A minor child born from an Omani mother and a foreign father may be granted the Omani citizenship, if he meets the following conditions:

1. The mother shall be widowed, divorced or abandoned by her husband to an unknown destination for at least ten (10) continuous years; this abandonment shall be supported by a legal judgment.
2. The marriage of the parents should have taken place after obtaining the prior approval from the Ministry; this condition shall not apply if the marriage took place before the acquirement of the Omani citizenship by the mother.
3. The mother shall be entrusted with the legal custody over her child by virtue of a legal judgment.
4. He should have been residing in Oman for at least ten (10) legitimate continuous years; It shall be noted that the continuous residency period shall not be interrupted if he is travelling outside of Oman for a period that does not exceed sixty (60) days in one year.
5. He shall have good conduct and character.
6. He shall not have been convicted of any crime or offence in breach of trust or honor, unless he has been exonerated.
7. The prior approval of the guardian of the minor child – if any – in written stating therein that he does not object to granting the child the Omani citizenship is a must.
8. He shall submit legal evidence proving that the foreign country allows the minor child to renounce his foreign citizenship.

Chapter Four

Loss, Denaturalization and Withdrawal of the Citizenship

Article (19)

The Omani national shall lose his Omani citizenship, if he acquires another citizenship, without abiding by the provisions of this law.

Article (20)

The Omani national shall be deprived from the Omani citizenship in the following cases:

1. If he joins a group or party or organization supporting principles or beliefs that harm the interests of Oman.
2. If he works for a foreign country at any capacity whatsoever, whether inside or outside Oman, and failed to leave such a position at the request of the Omani Government within the specified deadline.
3. If he works for an enemy country that operates against the interests of Oman.

A person shall be entitled to reacquire the Omani citizenship, if the reasons of denaturalization cease to exist.

Article (21)

The Omani citizenship shall be withdrawn in the following cases:

1. If a person meets any of the cases provided for in Article (20) hereinabove.
2. If a person acquired the Omani citizenship illegally and the same applies to any person who has acquired it through him.

3. If a person was convicted of any crime against the security of the country.
4. If a person was sentenced with an effective penalty in more than one crime within the five years following the acquirement of the Omani citizenship.
5. If a person resides outside of Oman for more than six (6) continuous months within the ten (10) years following the acquirement of the Omani citizenship without a valid justification or authorization, as per the procedures specified in the Summary.

Chapter Five Penalties

Article (22)

Without prejudice to any severer penalty provided for in any other law, a person who provides to the authorities false information or falsified documents in order to acquire or to renounce the Omani citizenship for himself or for others shall be sentenced to prison for a minimum period of one (1) year and a maximum period of three (3) years, in addition to a minimum fine of five thousand (5,000) Omani Rials and maximum fine of ten thousand (10,000) Omani Rials, or either one of these two penalties.