

CUNY/ NYC Citizenship Now! Volunteer Corps



The CUNY/ NYC Citizenship Now! Volunteer Corps is the only large-scale, university-based volunteer initiative in the country providing immigrants with free citizenship application assistance. It is a growing community of New Yorkers who are passionate about immigrants' rights, immigration law, and service to the public. Corps members are responsible for staffing our Citizenship Now! events held throughout New York City on weekends. At these events, volunteers work one-on-one with applicants, helping them complete the N-400 Application for Naturalization.



To register for the Volunteer Corps and start receiving e-mails, including our monthly newsletter, visit www.cuny.edu/citizenshipnow/volunteer or snap the QR code to the left.

Never seen a QR code before? Visit the App Store on your Android, iPhone, Blackberry, or Windows Mobile phone and download a QR code scanner. Using your phone's built-in camera, the scanning software will read the code and open our website on your phone's mobile web browser.



Connect with CUNY Citizenship Now!

 cuny.edu/citizenshipnow

 facebook.com/citizenshipnow

 [@CUNYCitizenship](https://twitter.com/CUNYCitizenship)

CUNY Citizenship Now! Immigration Centers

All Services are FREE



For directions, hours of service and more, call the numbers below, visit www.cuny.edu/citizenshipnow or snap the QR code to the left with your smart phone. Note: all centers require an appointment to see you.

BROOKLYN

Medgar Evers Immigration Center†
(718) 270-6292

MANHATTAN

City College Immigration Center†
(212) 650-6620

CUNY Express Immigration Center†
(212) 568-4692

QUEENS

Flushing Immigration Center†
(718) 640-9223

York College Immigration Center†
(718) 262-2983

STATEN ISLAND

College of Staten Island, El Centro, and Project Hospitality Help Center*
(718) 273-6773

THE BRONX

Hostos Community College Immigration Center†
(718) 518-4395

† Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) Recognized

* Part-time center

CUNY CITIZENSHIP NOW!



FREE Immigration Services for the People of New York
www.cuny.edu/citizenshipnow

CUNY Citizenship Now!

About Us



CUNY Citizenship Now! provides free, high quality, and confidential citizenship and immigration services to help individuals and families on their path to United States citizenship. Our attorneys and paralegals offer one-on-one consultations to assess participants' eligibility for legal benefits and assist them in applying when qualified. We also coordinate community, educational, and volunteer initiatives to help expand opportunities for New York City's immigrant population. Our services are available to the community in several languages, including Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, Polish, French, and Italian.

Our History

In 1997, the City University of New York established CUNY Citizenship Now! to address the growing need for free citizenship and immigration services among CUNY's foreign-born students, faculty, and staff. Responding to high demand for these services in other communities, CUNY soon expanded its mission to benefit all New Yorkers. We now operate immigration centers accredited by the Board of Immigration Appeals across the five boroughs, and we hold volunteer events throughout New York City. We also collaborate with various elected officials to provide services directly from their district offices.

Our Services

We provide assistance to the community with:

- Naturalization

- Relative petitions
- Adjustment of status
- Consular processing
- Certificates of citizenship
- Replacement of lost/ damaged USCIS documents
- Diversity Visa lottery entries
- Fee Waiver Applications

We also offer:

- Referrals and consultations on other immigration-related issues
- Free pictures for applications that require them

Accomplishments

CUNY Citizenship Now! is the most comprehensive university-based immigration service provider in the United States. Our model combines free legal services, education, and volunteerism into a single initiative unlike any other citizenship and immigration service provider in the area. Highlighted below are some of our organization's unique accomplishments:

- Every year we assist over 10,000 participants with various immigration issues.
- We maintain a Volunteer Corps with hundreds of active members.
- We provide free citizenship application assistance at weekend events held in partnership with local elected officials and community organizations.
- We are the recipient of grants from numerous city, state, and national agencies. Grantors have included the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) and the Bureau of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (BRIA). We also received a grant from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to offer free English and civics classes for citizenship applicants during fiscal year 2010 - 2011.
- We collaborate with United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to make CUNY campuses available for citizenship swearing-in ceremonies.

- Our free, public webinars, held in partnership with the CUNY School of Professional Studies, have featured some of the area's top immigration attorneys and advocates.

Initiatives



CUNY/ Daily News Citizenship Now! Call-In

The Call-in first began in 2004 to provide callers with free, confidential immigration information. Within the event's first seven years, volunteers assisted nearly 100,000 callers. Callers' issues range from U.S. citizenship to residency to family petitions. Hundreds of volunteers participate in this event, many of them trained by CUNY Citizenship Now!

For one week each spring, we open the phones to take calls from anyone seeking immigration information or resources. Our overall capacity has more than doubled since the event's kickoff year. At the 2011 Call-in, over 350 volunteers assisted 12,526 callers in over 40 different languages.

NYC Immigrant Heritage Week Event

Immigrant Heritage Week was established by Mayor Michael Bloomberg in 2004 to commemorate the day in April 1907 when more immigrants entered through Ellis Island than any other day in history. CUNY Citizenship Now! and the Volunteer Corps join the celebration each year by holding a massive, city-wide application assistance event where we aim to assist over 400 people in a single day.

FREE Educational Initiatives

- Trainings for immigration professionals.
- Webinars and workshops on immigration issues.