

Supporting Documents for Claims Conference Compensation Claims

Items marked with a * are required. If an item is not available, try to find an alternative that can substitute for the listed document.

- Valid ID card (driver's license or senior citizen ID) *
- Social Security Card *
- Medicare Card (esp. if old version containing applicant's SSN is available)
 - The old (pre-2018) version has a space for the holder's signature. Claims Conference will reject this document if the card was not signed by the applicant
- Proof of current citizenship (valid passport and/or naturalization certificate) *
 - Submit both passport and naturalization certificate, if they are both available
 - If applicant holds dual citizenship, include proof of citizenship for each country, if available
 - If applicant is not a U.S. citizen, provide Green Card and proof of citizenship in another country
 - Claims Conference will reject U.S. Passports that are not signed by the applicant
- Proof of past citizenship(s), if available
- Birth certificate *
 - If no birth certificate, look for an official document (preferably issued in applicant's country of birth) that shows applicant's date of birth, place of birth, and parents' names
 - If birth certificate is not available, provide other document(s) showing applicant's date of birth, place of birth, and parents' names. Possible substitutes may include marriage certificates, marriage licenses, or a parent's death certificate where the applicant is listed as the child of the decedent.
 - If applicant has nothing that will satisfy this requirement, the Claims Conference requires a written statement, signed by the applicant, confirming that they do not have a birth certificate or similar document. This can be included with the initial application.
- Proof of name change(s) *
 - A document (or a chain of documents) must link the name on applicant's birth certificate with the name on his/her current ID. For example:
 - Marriage certificate showing applicant's maiden name and name of spouse
 - Name change order on the back of a naturalization certificate (or in an attached order)
 - Children's birth certificates showing mother's maiden name
 - Death certificate of a parent that lists applicant (with married name) as informant or next-of-kin

- ❑ Proof of Jewish identity, e.g., *
 - Birth certificate showing Jewish “nationality”
 - Proof of Jewish wedding (ketubah [Jewish marriage contract], proof of marriage by a rabbi or in a synagogue)
 - Record of attendance at Jewish school
 - Documents showing either parent was Jewish

- ❑ Proof of applicant’s whereabouts and/or persecution during World War II (if available)
 - Can be any document that proves, or tends to prove, any element of the Claims Conference application, including documents showing (or suggesting) applicant’s whereabouts before, during, or immediately after the war.

 - Common documents include:
 - Records of confinement in concentration camps or ghettos
 - Housing records/residence certificates
 - ID cards issued in country of residence
 - Employment records (for applicant or parents)
 - School records, diplomas or certificates issued to applicant or to applicant’s parents, siblings or children
 - Birth certificates of applicant’s siblings or children
 - Displaced Persons (DP) Camp records
 - Documents from the ITS Archive at USHMM (submit requests on-line at <https://secure.ushmm.org/individual-research/>)
 - Proof that applicant’s relatives perished due to persecution (e.g., from Yad Vashem Database of Shoah Victims’ Names: <https://yvng.yadvashem.org/>)
 - Evacuation records from the Moscow Red Cross

 - Note: If applicant was a minor during the war, the Claims Conference presumes that the child was with his/her parents, especially the mother.
 - If applicant was, in fact, with their parents, documents establishing the parents’ whereabouts or persecution should be submitted, if available.
 - If applicant was not with their mother, documents will likely be required to overcome the presumption that the mother and child were together.