



**OCA-GREATER LOS ANGELES**

www.oca-gla.org | info@oca-gla.org | (213) 250-9888

1145 Wilshire Blvd., 1st Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017

*EMBRACING THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS*

## **OCA-GLA / Advancing Justice-LA “Mentored Path to Citizenship” Grant Application**

Thank you for your interest in the OCA-Greater Los Angeles (OCA-GLA) / Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles (Advancing Justice-LA) “Mentored Path to Citizenship” Grant. Please read these instructions carefully to properly complete this form. If you need more space to complete an answer, use a separate sheet of paper.

OCA-GLA and Advancing Justice-LA are committed to maintaining the grant applicant’s right to privacy and the confidentiality of personal information.

### **What is the Purpose of This Form?**

The “Mentored Path to Citizenship” Grant Application is for those who wish to apply for naturalization but need financial aid to do so. For more information about the naturalization process and eligibility requirements, visit U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services’ (USCIS) citizenship page at [www.uscis.gov/naturalization](http://www.uscis.gov/naturalization). USCIS’s Guide to Naturalization, which is available at that website or by calling the USCIS Customer Service Center at (800) 375-5238, is particularly helpful.

### **Who qualifies for the “Mentored Path to Citizenship” Grant?**

To qualify for the “Mentored Path to Citizenship” Grant, you must:

- Meet all the requirements for citizenship, including the ability to speak, read, and write in English (unless you qualify for a waiver of this requirement)
- Show proof of residency in Los Angeles County
- Show proof of lawful permanent resident status (e.g., your green card)
- Show evidence of financial need through income tax returns, government benefits statements, bank records, etc.
- Participate in naturalization interview and civics exam preparation classes provided by OCA-GLA and Advancing Justice-LA.
- Have no relatives or family members of past or present employees or board members associated with OCA-GLA, OCA National office, or Advancing Justice-LA.



**OCA-GREATER LOS ANGELES**

www.oca-gla.org | info@oca-gla.org | (213) 250-9888  
1145 Wilshire Blvd., 1st Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017

*EMBRACING THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS*

**Submitting the Application**

The completed application package must include:

- A. Copy of your green card (front and back)
- B. Copy of your driver's license / resident ID (if applicable)
- C. Copy of documents demonstrating financial need
- D. Completed application form

Failure to provide all of the requested documents may result in disqualification of the application.

Mail the completed application package:

**OCA-Greater Los Angeles  
Attn: MPTC Committee  
1145 Wilshire Blvd, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017**

All applications must be post-marked by **August 31, 2015**.



**OCA-GREATER LOS ANGELES**

www.oca-gla.org | info@oca-gla.org | (213) 250-9888

1145 Wilshire Blvd., 1st Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017

*EMBRACING THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS*

**OCA-GLA / Advancing Justice-LA “Mentored Path to Citizenship” Grant Application**

**PART A. INFORMATION ABOUT YOU**

***Name:***

--	--	--

Family Name (*Last Name*)

First Name

Full Middle Name (*If applicable*)

***Residential Address:***

--	--

Street Number and Name (*No PO Box Please*)

Apt. Number

--	--	--

City

State

Zip Code

***Mailing Address (if different than residential address):***

--	--

Street Number and Name

Apt. Number

--	--	--	--

City

County

State

Zip Code

***Contact Phone Number and Email:***

--	--	--

Daytime Phone Number

Evening Phone Number

Email Address

**How did you hear about this grant?** (please list specific names/organizations if possible)

---



## PART B: ELIGIBILITY FOR CITIZENSHIP

1. You are at least 18 years old.  Yes  No
  
2. You are a permanent resident of the U.S. (i.e., you have a green card).  Yes  No
  
3. You have resided in the U.S. as a permanent resident (i.e., you considered the U.S. your only home) for the past 5 or more years.  Yes  No  

OR: You have resided in the U.S. as a permanent resident for just the past 3 or more years and either:

  - a. You have been married to and living with a U.S. citizen for at least 3 years *and* your spouse has been a citizen for at least 3 years,  Yes  No  
or
  - b. You obtained permanent residence as a survivor of abuse caused by your U.S. citizen parent or spouse.  Yes  No
  
4. You have been physically present in the U.S. for at least 2 ½ years out of the past 5 years.  Yes  No
  
5. You have resided in California for at least the past 3 months.  Yes  No
  
6. You can speak, read, and write in basic English.  Yes  No  

OR: You are either:

  - a. At least 55 years old with at least 15 years of permanent residence,  Yes  No  
or
  - b. At least 50 years old with at least 20 years of permanent residence.  Yes  No
  
7. You can pass an examination on U.S. government and history.  Yes  No



**PART C: ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS**

- 1. Have you ever been arrested, cited, charged, or convicted of any crime or offense (including traffic violations and immigration offenses), no matter when or where they occurred?  Yes  No

If “yes,” provide the following information for each of those arrests, citations, charges, and convictions:

<i>Date of arrest, citation, etc.</i>	<i>Type of crime or offense</i>	<i>Outcome (examples: paid fine, attended traffic school, served time in jail, etc.)</i>

- 2. Do you owe any taxes that are overdue?  Yes  No
- 3. Have you ever registered to vote, or actually voted, in the U.S.?  Yes  No
- 4. Did you ever work overseas after you became a permanent resident?  Yes  No
- 5. Have you ever taken any trips outside the U.S. that lasted for 6 months or more since you became a permanent resident?  Yes  No
- 6. Has the government ever tried to deport you from the U.S.?  Yes  No
- 7. Did you ever give false information or false papers to the U.S. government for any reason (such as to get your green card or to get welfare)?  Yes  No

**PART D: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

Please answer the following three questions. Limit your response to 250 words for each question. Attach additional sheets of paper if you need more room for your answers.

- 1. Why do you want to become an American citizen?



**OCA-GREATER LOS ANGELES**

www.oca-gla.org | info@oca-gla.org | (213) 250-9888

1145 Wilshire Blvd., 1st Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017

---

*EMBRACING THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS*

2. Describe any obstacles, such as economic hardships, you have encountered in meeting the requirements or applying for citizenship.

3. If you are chosen as OCA-GLA / Advancing Justice-LA's Citizen Grant recipient, how would you give back to less fortunate immigrants? Include your personal commitment or interests in civic engagement and social justice issues.