

***Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) in Georgia
and the
Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA)***

For children born in Georgia through assisted reproductive technology (ART), the following information will assist parents as they prepare to apply for their child's Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) and first U.S. passport.

The consular section advises U.S. citizens who are pursuing or are considering ART in Georgia to contact us at: AskConsulTbilisi@state.gov.

We also suggest that prospective parents review the travel.state.gov [page on ART](#).

Overview

A child born outside the United States to a U.S. citizen parent or parents is eligible for U.S. citizenship if the parent(s) meet the requirements for transmitting U.S. citizenship under the [Immigration and Nationality Act](#) (INA). The U.S. Department of State interprets the INA to mean that a child born abroad must be **genetically or gestationally** related to a U.S. citizen parent or to a non-U.S. citizen parent who is married to a U.S. citizen parent at the time of the child's birth. DNA testing is often the best way to establish a genetic relationship after the child is born. In addition to establishing a genetic or gestational relationship to the child, a U.S. citizen parent or parents must also establish that other citizenship transmission requirements have been met, such as certain periods of **physical presence** or residence in the United States prior to the birth of the child.

The citizenship is documented with a **Consular Report of Birth Abroad, or CRBA**.

Your CRBA - Getting Started

- Prepare – work closely with your local service provider to ensure all documents are in order.
- Allow for sufficient time – a CRBA can only be applied for after the child's birth and, in most cases, be only processed in the country where the child was born. Exceptions apply if there is no U.S. embassy or consulate in the child's country of birth, or the U.S. embassy or consulate in the child's country of birth is not processing CRBAs. Be aware that processing of an uncomplicated case can take a minimum of three to four weeks after the application is submitted at our office.
- Be in contact with the consular section in Tbilisi – email us at AskConsulTbilisi@state.gov.

Pre Appointment Preparation

In addition to the standard [CRBA application](#), you will be required to provide information regarding the ART process.

- **ART and birth documentation:**
 - Your surrogacy contract – original and notarized translation
 - IVF procedure documentation – original and notarized translation
 - Hospital report of birth – original and notarized translation
 - Local birth certificate – original and notarized translation
- **Confirming the genetic relationship to your child:**
 - Contact an AABB Accredited Parentage Testing Laboratories to arrange for DNA testing at: <http://www.aabb.org/sa/facilities/Pages/RTestAccrFac.aspx>

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- DNA testing is done at the AABB's Accredited Parentage Testing Laboratories. Swabs can be administered at the consular section at the time of the CRBA appointment, by the approved Panel Physician, with a kit preordered by applying parent(s) that is received by U.S. Embassy Tbilisi in advance of the CRBA application and interview. The consular section will make an appointment for the Panel Physician to administer the test. (see below for test procedures)
- DNA test results can be accepted via email directly from the accredited laboratory.
- All costs associated with testing are the responsibility of the applying parent(s).
- Email AskConsulTbilisi@state.gov once you have scheduled an online appointment date in order to request a DNA sample collection appointment for the same time.

Note: There is no case number associated with the CRBA case and the consular section cannot provide any individual letter or request to be presented to the laboratory for pre-ordering the DNA kit.

Schedule an Appointment at the Consular Section

For a CRBA appointment, at least one parent (or legal guardian) and the child applicant must appear in person in front of a consular officer at the U.S. Embassy Tbilisi. If a [passport application](#) is being made at the same time (for which no additional appointment is necessary), both parents and the child applicant must appear. If one parent is not physically present, a notarized [DS-3053](#) and certified true copy of the non-appearing parent's passport or photo ID should accompany the [DS-3053](#).

After the appointment there is no further requirement for both parents to stay in Georgia while the results of DNA testing are pending.

- Schedule an appointment at the U.S. Embassy Tbilisi consular section online at: <https://evisaforms.state.gov/acs/default.asp?postcode=TBL&appcode=1>
- Expedited appointments may be requested after the baby is born. Please contact us at AskConsulTbilisi@state.gov.

On the day of your scheduled appointment

At the time of the appointment, parents should be prepared with the applications, fees, documents, and other evidence described on [our web page](#). **Please review this information carefully, as failure to fulfill all of the requirements on the date of your appointment may delay the processing of your case.**

DNA Sample Collection Procedures

- **Preparation for DNA testing requires the following:**
 - A photocopy of a Picture ID/Passport of parent(s) tested
 - Child's original birth certificate with copy/translated and notarized into English
 - 5cm x 5cm photo of child
 - 5cm x 5cm photo of parent(s) being tested

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Timelines

CRBA and passport processing typically takes about three weeks **after** DNA test results are received by the consular section. Once approved, both documents are printed in the United States and are sent to the consular section via DHL. There is no expedited service for CRBA processing. Passports frequently arrive in advance of the CRBA. Once the application is approved, should families elect to return to the United States in advance of the consular section receiving the CRBA, parents may request an emergency limited validity passport for the baby and arrange/prepay for the CRBA to be forwarded to their home address.

Please be aware that while the consular section makes every effort to expeditiously process CRBAs, delays can and do occur. Be prepared and plan ahead!

Resources

The U.S. Embassy Tbilisi website provides further information concerning [CRBAs](#) and [passports](#). Also review the list of conditions for entering the U.S. Embassy Tbilisi and other general information on our [website](#).

Consult our [COVID-19 page](#), [Georgia International Travel Information](#), and the [Georgia Travel Advisory](#) for travel requirements and local conditions.

The State Department's Consular Affairs [website](#) also provides important information on [CRBAs](#) and [passports](#). It is also an excellent resource for Americans abroad.