

Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) Scheme

1. Important information regarding OCI card:

Multiple entry lifelong visa for visiting India for persons of Indian origin.

Special permission from MHA is required to undertake research work in India.

Prior permission from MHA is required to undertake missionary, mountaineering and tabligh activities. Permission from External Publicity (XP) Division, MEA is required for undertaking journalistic activities.

Protected Area Permit (PAP)/ Restricted Area Permit (RAP) from MHA is required to visit any place which falls within the Protected/ Restricted Area as notified by the Government of India.

Issued to persons of Indian origin with lineage upto 4th generation. Only in case of Mauritius and Suriname the facility has been extended to 6th generation.

Can be applied at Mission/Post abroad or at FRRO in India on the webpage ***www.ociservices.gov.in***

Must be re-issued **each time** a new passport is issued up to the age of 20 years and **once** after completing 50 years of age in view of biological changes in the face of the applicant.

Re-issuance of the OCI Cardholder registration is **not** mandatory each time a new passport is issued between 21 and 50 years of age.

In case of change of nationality of the OCI cardholder, he/ she can be permitted to enter/ exit on the strength of the OCI card and valid passport of the new nationality provided the new nationality is not that of Pakistan or Bangladesh.

Children and spouse of foreign military/ police personnel either in service or retired and foreign nationals working in Private Security Agencies, Home Offices, Prisons, National Probation Service and companies or organisations associated with the Home Office or military institutions, i.e. those who are not directly employed in military or police, **may be considered** for registration as OCI cardholder.

Adopted children, children born out of live-in relationship and children born out of IVF/ Surrogacy **may be considered** for registration as an OCI cardholder, provided fulfilling prescribed eligibility criteria.

2. Categories not eligible for OCI card:

Persons of Pakistani and Bangladeshi origin

Foreign Military/ Police Personnel either serving or retired

3. Procedure for granting registration as OCI cardholder:

(a) **Normal category:** OCI card can be granted by the Indian Mission/ Post/ FRRO after MHA clearance. In case MHA clearance is not received, Mission/ Post may grant OCI card after 20 days from the date of acknowledgment of the application.

(b) **Foreign spouse category:** In the case of application submitted in respect of spouse of a person of Indian origin, Indian Mission/ Post/ FRRO can issue OCI card only after MHA clearance. Deemed MHA clearance after lapse of 20 days is not applicable.

4. Following are the benefits available to OCI cardholders in parity with Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) :

inter-country adoption of Indian children;

tariffs in air fares in domestic sectors in India;

admittance into national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, national monuments;

working as doctors, dentists, nurses, pharmacists, advocates, architects, and chartered accountants;

appearing for All Indian Pre-Medical Test or such other tests to make them eligible for admission;

in economic, financial, and agricultural fields **except in matters relating to the acquisition of agricultural or plantation properties;**

eligible for teaching faculty in IITs, NITs, IIMs, IISERs, IISc, Central Universities and in the new AIIMS set up under PradhanMantriSwasthyaSurakshaYojana (PMSSY).

exempted from registration with FRRO/FRO for any length of stay in India. OCI cards are treated as their identification for any services rendered to them.

5. OCI cardholders are notentitled;

to vote;

to hold the offices of President, Vice-President, Judge of Supreme Court and High Court, Member of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, Legislative Assembly or Council;

for appointment in Public Services (Government Service).

6. Fee structure of OCI:

Sr. No.	Service Rendered	Service Rendered	Fee Charged	Fee Charged
Sr. No.	Service Rendered	Service Rendered	Missions/ Posts	FRROs/ FROs

1	New OCI Registration	Fresh Application	US \$ 275	₹15,000
2	OCI Registration	In lieu of Valid PIO card	US \$ 100	₹5,500
2	OCI Registration	In lieu of Lost PIO card	US \$ 100	₹5,500
3	Re-issuance of OCI card	In case of issuance of new passport	US \$ 25	₹1,400
3	Re-issuance of OCI card	In case of change of personal particulars	US \$ 25	₹1,400
4	Issuance of Duplicate OCI Booklet	In case of mutilated/damaged OCI card	US \$ 100	₹5,500
4	Issuance of Duplicate OCI Booklet	In case of loss of OCI card	US \$ 100	₹5,500

7. FAQs on OCI are also available on MHA website: www.ociservices.gov.in
