



## NATURALIZEBG YEAR 2026 GUIDELINES

### What is NaturalizeBG?

**NaturalizeBG** is a scholarship program sponsored by the City of Bowling Green that aims at increasing opportunities for Legal Permanent Residents living in the City of Bowling Green who face economic obstacles to becoming naturalized U.S. citizens. The **NaturalizeBG** scholarship has awarded over 60 total scholarship since 2018 totaling over \$24,300 in funds.

### Who Can Apply?

Any United States Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) “green card holder” who is eligible for U.S. Citizenship, is a resident of the City of Bowling Green and/or employed within the City limits and meets certain income requirements. Applicant must have completed the *Form N-400, Application for Naturalization* or the *N-600 Application for Certificate of Citizenship*, on the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services website at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov), or complete either form within 90 days of receipt of award.

**N-400 Applicants** are eligible to apply for funds ANY TIME prior to filing the N-400 and up until before going to the Interview with U.S.C.I.S and taking Civics Exam.

**N-600 Applicants** are eligible to apply ANY TIME prior to filing the N-600 and up until 30 days after receipt of Certificate of Citizenship

### What will the NaturalizeBG program cover?

This program is reimbursement based, meaning you must pay for the application fee, and then receive reimbursement for approved expenses from the City of Bowling Green.

- The scholarship will only cover **half of the cost of the N-400 application fee depending on the filing method: \$760 (paper filing), \$710 (online filing), or the full \$380 if applicant qualified for the reduced fee).**
- **The scholarship will only cover half of the cost of the N-600 application fee depending on the filing method: \$1,385 (paper filing), \$1,335 (online filing).**
- The scholarship **WILL NOT** pay for legal or attorney fees incurred in the preparation of the citizenship application.

### How many scholarships will be awarded this year?

- **This year the City of Bowling Green will award (22) twenty-seven scholarships by June 30, 2026.** Applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Scholarships will be awarded until funds are exhausted.

### What are the Conditions?

- Funds will not be made available unless a copy of the Certificate of Naturalization is provided.
- Applicant must provide documentation of fee payment (Notice of Action, copy of check, bank statement, etc). The City will do a partial reimbursement of the N-400 or N-600 if applicant has to pay full application fee or it will provide a full reimbursement if applicant qualifies for the reduced fee waiver. The City will not reimburse for attorney and/or preparer fees.
- The City of Bowling Green reserves the right to decline any application and change any requirements/guidelines. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- By accepting funds from the City of Bowling Green, you authorize the City to take and use photos in promotional materials and publications.

### For more information contact:

Leyda Becker, Community Engagement Manager, at (270) 393-3766 or email [Leyda.becker@bgky.org](mailto:Leyda.becker@bgky.org)  
Visit our website at: <http://www.bgky.org/ncs/icl>



## CITY OF BOWLING GREEN'S CITIZENSHIP SCHOLARSHIP FY 2026 APPLICATION FORM

*NaturalizeBG is program sponsored by the City of Bowling Green that aims at increasing opportunities for Legal Permanent Residents (green card holders) living in the City of Bowling Green who face economic obstacles to becoming naturalized U.S. citizens. PLEASE READ ATTACHED GUIDELINES AND SCHOLARSHIP FLOWCHART BEFORE COMPLETING APPLICATION.*

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

First Name:		Last Name:	
Mailing Address:			
Email Address:		Phone Number:	
Date of birth:	Age:	Gender:	
Country of Origin:		Language(s) Spoken:	
Number of Years in the U.S.:		Number of Years in Bowling Green:	
Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes                      No		If Yes, write the date and charge of felony:	
Place/Location of Employment:			
Have you already applied for U.S. Naturalization?		Yes	No
If yes, did you have to pay an application fee?		Yes	No

### TOTAL GROSS ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME

In the column showing the number of people in your household, circle (only one) income range that totals the gross annual household income. Here is an example to calculate your gross annual income:

*\$ per hour x hours per week = weekly gross income (\$15 per hour X 40 hours per week = \$600)  
Take weekly gross income x weeks worked per year = gross annual income (\$600 X 52 weeks = \$31,200)*

Calculate gross annual income for every working member of your household and add everyone's income together to get the gross annual household income. Circle one option below:

1 Person	2 Persons	3 Persons	4 Persons
\$0-\$29,050	\$0-\$33,200	\$0-\$37,350	\$0-\$41,450
\$29,051 - \$65,030	\$33,201 - \$74,270	\$37,351 - \$83,580	\$41,451 - \$92,820
Over \$65,031	Over \$74,271	Over \$83,581	Over \$92,821
5 Persons	6 Persons	7 Persons	8 Persons
\$0-\$44,800	\$0-\$48,100	\$0-\$51,400	\$0-\$54,750
\$44,801 - \$100,310	\$48,101 - \$107,730	\$51,401 - \$115,150	\$54,750 - \$122,570
Over \$100,311	Over \$107,731	Over \$115,151	Over \$122,571



## NATURALIZEBG

### For Internal Use

Application Number:

Date Received:

### PROOF OF RESIDENCY/EMPLOYMENT IN THE CITY LIMITS OF BOWLING GREEN (MUST PROVIDE ONE)

Lease Apartment / House

Utility Bill (Electric, Gas, Water, etc.)

Driver's License

Paystub/Paycheck

### WHY DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A U.S. CITIZEN? (PLEASE ANSWER IN THE BOX BELOW)

### HOW DO YOU FEEL U.S. CITIZENSHIP WILL ALLOW YOU TO ADVANCE IN YOUR CURRENT OR FUTURE JOB/CAREER OPPORTUNITIES? (PLEASE ANSWER IN THE BOX BELOW)

### COMMITMENT CONTRACT (ALL ITEMS MUST BE CHECKED BEFORE SIGNING)

- ☐ I am eligible to apply for U.S. Citizenship and have completed the N-400 form or the N-600 form **OR** will complete the N-400 or the N-600 within 90 days of award.
- ☐ I understand this scholarship is reimbursement based and if awarded I will have to provide proof of citizenship in order to be reimbursed.
- ☐ I have provided a copy of proof of residency in the city of Bowling Green.
- ☐ I certify that the above information is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and fully understand that this information is subject to verification by the City of Bowling Green upon their request. Falsifying this information will result in the payback of funds and agree to comply with all program guidelines.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE:

DATE:

**Please complete all sections of the application, provide all requested copies and return to:**

Leyda Becker, International Communities Liaison

707 East Main Avenue, P.O. Box 430

Bowling Green, KY 42102-0430

Email: [leyda.becker@bgky.org](mailto:leyda.becker@bgky.org)

Phone: (270)393-3766 OR text (270)935-8960

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