

STATUS LETTERS

1. A status letter gives an opinion about a person's British nationality status.
2. An application for a status letter should be made on form NS.
3. A fee is charged for the issue of a status letter. Current fee levels are displayed on the UKBA website.
4. Status letters are not certificates of nationality. They merely record UKBA's opinion that a person possesses a form of British nationality. Only the courts can determine conclusively whether that person is actually a British national. For this reason, great care should be taken when status letters are issued.
5. **The effects of Independence Acts**
 - 5.1 Care should be taken not to overlook the effects of Independence Acts on the citizenship of persons born in, or connected with, former dependent territories. Where a person retained British nationality on independence, a paragraph explaining this should be included in the status letter.
6. **Evidence required**
 - 6.1 Evidence required to establish a claim to British nationality is given in the relevant chapter of Volume 1.