



British Nationality Act 1981

1981 CHAPTER 61

PART I

BRITISH CITIZENSHIP

Acquisition after commencement

[^{F1}4E] **The general conditions**

For the purposes of sections 4F to 4I, a person (“P”) meets the general conditions if—

- ^{F2}(a)
- (b) at the time of P's birth, P's mother—
 - (i) was not married, or
 - (ii) was married to a person other than P's natural father;
- (c) no person is treated as the father of P under section 28 of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990 [^{F3}or under section 35 or 36 of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008];
- [^{F4}(ca) no person is treated as a parent of P under section 42 or 43 of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008;] and
- (d) P has never been a British citizen.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 4E-4J inserted (6.4.2015) by [Immigration Act 2014 \(c. 22\)](#), **ss. 65**, 75(3); S.I. 2015/371, art. 4(b)
- F2** S. 4E(a) omitted (28.6.2022) by virtue of [Nationality and Borders Act 2022 \(c. 36\)](#), **ss. 7(2)(a)**, 87(1); S.I. 2022/590, regs. 1(2), 2, Sch. 1 para. 6
- F3** Words in s. 4E(c) inserted (28.6.2022) by [Nationality and Borders Act 2022 \(c. 36\)](#), **ss. 7(2)(b)**, 87(1); S.I. 2022/590, regs. 1(2), 2, Sch. 1 para. 6
- F4** S. 4E(ca) inserted (28.6.2022) by [Nationality and Borders Act 2022 \(c. 36\)](#), **ss. 7(2)(c)**, 87(1); S.I. 2022/590, regs. 1(2), 2, Sch. 1 para. 6

Changes to legislation:

British Nationality Act 1981, Section 4E is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 07 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 6(3)(4) inserted by [2009 c. 11 s. 40\(2\)](#) (Amending provision prospectively repealed by [2022 c. 36, s. 9\(3\)\(a\)](#))
- s. 41(1)(bc)-(be) inserted by [2009 c. 11 s. 41\(2\)](#) (Amending provision prospectively repealed by [2022 c. 36, s. 9\(3\)\(a\)](#))
- s. 41(1B)(1C) inserted by [2009 c. 11 s. 41\(3\)](#) (Amending provision prospectively repealed by [2022 c. 36, s. 9\(3\)\(a\)](#))
- Sch. 1 para. 2(1)(ba)(bb) inserted by [2009 c. 11 s. 39\(5\)](#) (Amending provision prospectively repealed by [2022 c. 36, s. 9\(3\)\(a\)](#))
- Sch. 1 para. 2(1)(ca) inserted by [2009 c. 11 s. 39\(7\)](#) (Amending provision prospectively repealed by [2022 c. 36, s. 9\(3\)\(a\)](#))
- Sch. 1 para. 2(5) inserted by [2009 c. 11 s. 39\(10\)](#) (Amending provision prospectively repealed by [2022 c. 36, s. 9\(3\)\(a\)](#))
- Sch. 1 para. 6(2)-(4) inserted by [2022 c. 36 Sch. 1 para. 3\(4\)\(d\)](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 2(1)(c) repealed by [2009 c. 11 s. 39\(6\)](#)[Sch. Pt. 2](#) (Amending provision prospectively repealed by [2022 c. 36, s. 9\(3\)\(a\)](#))
- Sch. 1 para. 2(1)(a) substituted by [2009 c. 11 s. 39\(4\)](#) (Amending provision prospectively repealed by [2022 c. 36, s. 9\(3\)\(a\)](#))
- Sch. 1 para. 2(2)-(4) substituted for Sch. 1 para. 2(2)(3) by [2009 c. 11 s. 39\(9\)](#) (Amending provision prospectively repealed by [2022 c. 36, s. 9\(3\)\(a\)](#))
- Sch. 1 para. 2(1)(d) word substituted by [2009 c. 11 s. 39\(8\)\(a\)](#) (Amending provision prospectively repealed by [2022 c. 36, s. 9\(3\)\(a\)](#))
- Sch. 1 para. 2(1)(d) words substituted by [2009 c. 11 s. 39\(8\)\(b\)](#) (Amending provision prospectively repealed by [2022 c. 36, s. 9\(3\)\(a\)](#))