

**EMBASSY OF INDIA
MADRID**

With reference to earlier instructions of 11th August, 2015, further clarifications received from the Ministry, relating to the OCI cards are as follows:

1. **As regards submission of application for registration online as OCI cardholders in lieu of the PIO card, the date has been extended till 30.6.2016.**
2. **All other terms and conditions mentioned below shall remain unchanged.**

**(C.P. Gandhi)
First Secretary (Cons)
25th February, 2016**

With reference to earlier instructions of 22nd June, 2015, further clarifications received from the Ministry, relating to the OCI cards are as follows:

- ~~1. As regards submission of application for registration online as OCI cardholders in lieu of the PIO card, the date has been extended till 31.3.2016.~~

**(C.P. Gandhi)
First Secretary (Cons)
11 August 2015**

With reference to earlier instructions of 22nd May, 2015, further clarifications received from the Ministry, relating to recent update on the OCI cards are as follows:

- ~~1. As regards submission of application for registration online as OCI cardholders in lieu of the PIO card, the date has been extended till 30.9.2015.~~

3. **The applications may be submitted at the Indian Mission at the place of current residence of applicants.**
4. Para 2(1) below, therefore, is replaced by above instructions.

**(C.P. Gandhi)
First Secretary (Cons)
22 June 2015**

Revised Instructions on Conversion of PIO Card to OCI Card

~~———— In view of the practical difficulties being faced by PIO Card holders in the context of their transition to OCI Card holders, the Embassy had taken up the matter with the relevant authorities in India.~~

~~———— It has now been decided by the relevant authorities as follows:-~~

~~(i) ——— PIO Cards would be treated as valid beyond the period of three months (viz. 9 January to 9 April 2015, as earlier announced).~~

~~(ii) ——— Applying for OCI Cards in lieu of PIO Cards at the website <https://passport.gov.in/oci/> would continue to be optional for the applicant until further instructions from the relevant authorities.~~

Para 2(1) below, therefore, is replaced by above instructions.

(C.P. Gandhi)
First Secretary (Cons)
22 May 2015

Conversion of PIO Cards to OCI Cards

(1) As per the Ministry of Home Affairs Notification dated 9 January 2015, with effect from 9.1.2015, all the existing PIO cardholders are deemed to be OCI cardholders. A separate online application system for issue of OCI card in lieu of the PIO card without payment of any registration fee has already been devised and can be accessed at <https://passport.gov.in/oci/>.

(2). The salient points of clarification relating to the conversion from PIO Card to OCI Card are provided below:

- 1. Initially for a period of 3 months with effect from 9/1/2015, the submission of application for OCI card in lieu of PIO card was voluntary. However, after the initial period of 3 months, it has become mandatory with effect from 9.4.2015.
- 2. In the case of persons with dual nationality or minors whose nationality would be confirmed after attaining 18 years of age, OCI card would be granted except that such persons should not be holding nationality of certain countries.
- 3. Step children and adopted children would not be eligible for OCI card.
- 4. Minors who were PIO card holders, when apply for OCI card after attaining the age of 18 years, would be required to pay a differential fee of €52.

- 5. Cases of applicants with a single parent, whose birth certificate mentioned about only one parent and personal particulars and nationality of other parent were not known, would not be eligible for OCI card.
- 6. Minor foreigners who were born out of live-in relationships and whose parents either got married or continued with the state of live-in relationship thereafter, would not be eligible for OCI card.
- 7. Spouse of foreign origin of a citizen of India or spouse of foreign origin of an OCI cardholder and whose marriage has been registered and subsisted for a continuous period of not less than two years immediately preceding the presentation of the application shall be eligible for registration as OCI cardholder. The couple would need to furnish a joint declaration regarding the subsistence of their married state.
- 8. No foreign national whose Indian spouse is no more would be granted OCI card.
- 9. In the case of foreign spouses, marriage certificate issued by the marriage registering authority is mandatory and old foreign couples who are not able to produce marriage certificate owing to the fact that they had not registered their marriage, would not be granted OCI card.
- 10. For processing of OCI applications, marriage certificate issued by the marriage registering authority only is acceptable, and marriage certificates issued by community institutions like church/mosque/temple, which are not registered, are not acceptable.
- 11. OCI 'U' Visa Sticker has been dispensed with. However, the 'U' Visa sticker would continue to be issued until the stock of old OCI cards is exhausted. Once new OCI cards are printed, the 'U' Visa sticker will not be required.
- 12. The processing of OCI cards take several weeks depending on the nature of the application, and those who need to travel urgently, and had applied for OCI card, need to obtain a visa on payment of applicable fee to facilitate their visit to India, pending issue of OCI card to them.

As on February 25, 2016.