

# Fact sheet

## *Medical Disability Exception Citizenship Waivers (Form N-648)*

### Is this patient eligible?

Patient must be eligible for citizenship otherwise.

Disability must be physical, developmental, or cognitive

AND lasting 12 months or more

AND affect the patient's ability to learn the educational requirements of the citizenship process

### What do I use to gather info?

Commonly Used Assessment Tools

#### Intellectual and Cognitive

- Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale
- WISC-IV Full Scale IQ and IQ Composite Score Summary
- Wechsler Memory Scale (WMS-IV)
- Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA)
- Rey-Osterrieth Complex Figure Test
- Mini Mental Status Exam (MMSE)
- Roland Universal Dementia Assessment Scale (RUDAS)

#### Emotional/Psychosocial

- Harvard Trauma Questionnaire (HTQ)
- Hopkins Symptom Checklist
- Beck Depression Inventory II (BDI-II)

#### Physical Assessments, when related to

##### Cognitive function

- A1C (diabetes)
- Recent blood pressure tests (hypertension)

*Other assessments used to determine specific diagnosis may also apply*

### Where can I get more information?

USCIS Instructions for Form N-648, Medical Certification for Disability Exceptions.

<https://www.uscis.gov/n-648>

### Who can complete this form?

N-648 forms can only be signed by licensed Medical Doctor (MD), Doctor of Osteopathy (DO), or Clinical Psychologists (Ph.D. Psychology).

MD, DO, or PsyD/PhD **must complete an in-person examination** of the applicant to certify the form

**Staff associated with the medical professional may assist in completing the form, BUT the medical professional alone is responsible for verifying the accuracy of the content and certifying the form.**

### Completing the form:

- Use legible writing, or type the form.
- Use black ink
- Document the patient's identification information
- Use common terms, no abbreviations, and describe as if speaking to a non-medical professional
- Answer every question
- Link diagnosis to cognitive function and ability, and the longevity of 12 months+, in every response
- Do not reference other questions/responses when answering. Each question must be explained clearly, even if it seems duplicative.

### Local Resources and Partners

Iowa Justice for our Neighbors

P.O. Box 41006, Des Moines, IA 50311

Tel: 515-255-9809

American Friends Service Committee

4211 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50312

Tel: 515-274-4851

Primary Health Care

2353 SE 14th St. Des Moines, IA 50320

Tel: 515-248-1484

Lutheran Services in Iowa

3200 University Ave, Des Moines, 50311

Tel: 515-271-7385