

Embassy of India
Thimphu

Press Release: **Guidelines on the reissuance of OCI Cards**

The Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India has recently relaxed the requirements for reissuance of OCI Card, as detailed below:-

(i) **Mandatory requirement of re-issuance of an OCI card** each time a new passport is issued to a foreigner up to 20 years of age and once after completing 50 years of age, **is dispensed with;**

(ii) **OCI cardholder is required to get the OCI card re-issued only once when a new passport is issued after completing 20 years of age.**

(iii) OCI cardholder is required to upload ONLINE a copy of the new passport and a recent photo each time a new passport is issued up to 20 years of age and once after completing 50 years of age. The uploading of these documents may be done within three months of receipt of the new passport;

(iv) Foreign spouse of an Indian Citizen or spouse of foreign origin of an OCI cardholder is required to upload a copy of the new passport and a recent photo ONLINE each time a new passport is issued, along with a declaration on subsisting of marriage, copy of the Indian passport of the Indian spouse/passport and OCI card of the OCI cardholder spouse.

2. Further, **on account of ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, in order to avoid inconvenience to OCI cardholders** who are required to get their OCI cards reissued, **it has been decided by Government of India to extend the deadline for re-issuance of OCI card** from December 31, 2021 **till December 31, 2022.**

3. The requirement of carrying old and new passports, along with the OCI card, has been done away with. **Henceforth, an OCI cardholder traveling on the strength of existing OCI card bearing old passport number is not required to carry the old passport. However, carrying the new (current) passport is mandatory.**

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