

REGULATION No. 1129/2008 on Icelandic language  
tests for persons applying for Icelandic citizenship

Article 1

Tests in Icelandic.

Persons who acquire Icelandic citizenship under Article 7 of the Icelandic Citizenship Act are required to have passed a test in Icelandic based on the demands stated in these regulations.

Article 2

Exemptions.

The Minister of Justice may grant a person who is applying for Icelandic citizenship exemption from the requirement of having passed a test in Icelandic if it must be considered unfair to impose such a requirement. This could apply, for example, in the following circumstances:

if the applicant has reached the age of 65 and has been legally domiciled in Iceland for the 7 years immediately preceding the submission of his application;

if the applicant is attending an Icelandic junior school, or

has not yet reached junior school age;  
if the applicant is able to confirm, by means of a medical certificate, or other appropriate certificates from specialists in the appropriate fields, that he is not able to take the test due to serious obstacles of a physical or mental nature;  
if the applicant is able to confirm, by means of a relevant certificate from an Icelandic educational institution, that he possesses skills that meet the demands that are made in these regulations.

### Article 3

Holding of tests.

Tests in Icelandic shall normally be held at least twice each year.

The tests shall be held in Reykjavík or its vicinity. Tests may also be held elsewhere in Iceland.

The Minister of Justice shall place advertisements in the media and on the homepage of the Ministry of Justice stating, with at least eight weeks' notice, where and when tests are to be held.

### Article 4

Content of the tests.

The subject matter and level of difficulty of the tests in Icelandic shall be based on the final goal stated in the syllabus published in 2008 by Ministry of Education, Science and Culture covering instruction in Icelandic for foreign nationals (240 hours), with the exception of the goals stated there regarding a basic knowledge of the principal customs and traditions in Icelandic society.

Thus, applicants are required:

to be able to cope with day-to-day situations in educational institutions, employment and private life;

to be able to cope with unexpected circumstances;

to have acquired sufficient command of vocabulary in order

to take part in discussions of familiar topics;

to be able to understand simple conversations between persons;

to be able to read short texts in simple language about familiar topics;

to be able to write a short text in simple language about familiar topics;