



Information Booklet

Naturalization Test (NATEX)

Naturalization Test

On October 1, 2007, the Regulation Naturalization Netherlands Antilles came into effect after which the Regulations by the Minister of Justice of the Netherlands of 15 December 2010, under number 5678825/10 as an adaptation of the Naturalization Test Regulations Sint Maarten was implemented. If you want to become a Dutch citizen, you must take the naturalization test. After you have passed the naturalization test with satisfactory results, you may apply for naturalization.

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GENERAL INFORMATION ON NATURALIZATION

Do you wish to become a Dutch citizen? Based on the stipulations regarding naturalization, which came into effect on October 1, 2007, you must take the naturalization test to apply for Dutch citizenship. After you have passed the naturalization test with satisfactory results, you may apply for naturalization.

You must have sufficient command of the English and Dutch language for this test. You must also have knowledge of life and the institutions, norms and values of Sint Maarten and the constitution of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. You can follow a course or study on your own.

During the test, you must demonstrate what you know and have learned. The Sint Maarten naturalization test is like the test in the Netherlands, though it has been adapted on several topics regarding culture and society. The format has also been modified.

If you pass all three components, you will obtain a Certificate for the naturalization test from the Division of Examinations. With this certificate you can request your naturalization at the Ministry of Justice. For more information and questions on naturalization you can contact the *Cabinet of the Governor of Sint Maarten*¹.

The naturalization test comprises of three components:

- *Component I: Orientation on Society and the Political system*
- *Component II: English Language Skills*
(Speaking, Listening Comprehension, Reading Comprehension and Writing)
- *Component III: Dutch Language Skills*
(Speaking, Listening Comprehension, Reading Comprehension and Writing)

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TEST

Have you attended a naturalization course, or have you prepared on your own? Do you wish to take the naturalization test? After you have completed the registration process and have made the required payments you will receive an official summons (test notice).

The naturalization test consists of three components:

Component I	Orientation on Society and the Political system
Component II	English Language Skills a. Speaking b. Listening Comprehension c. Reading Comprehension d. Writing
Component III	Dutch Language Skills a. Speaking b. Listening Comprehension c. Reading Comprehension d. Writing

Central testing

All three Components I, II & III of the naturalization test are done on the computer and organized centrally by the Netherlands (Holland). During the tests, the use of a dictionary is prohibited.

Test level

The test is basically equivalent to the level of the final year of primary education / elementary school.

All your language skills must be on the A2 level (the level of the elementary user as determined in the Common European Reference Framework for Languages) or the level of the elementary user of Dutch as a Second Language.

Test content and structure

The final objectives (page 18) describe what you must be able to do and what knowledge is necessary to be eligible to apply for Dutch citizenship. The level of attainment is tested by means of a test Orientation on Society and the Political System, the English Language Skills test and the Dutch Language Skills test.

The knowledge that you must demonstrate will be itemized in the test in a practical and concrete format.

Component I: Orientation on Society and the Political system

In the central test, you will be asked questions about rules and customs of Sint Maarten and the Kingdom of the Netherlands: social-communal orientation and the political system.

- This is a computer-based test consisting of 30 multiple-choice questions.
- The language of instruction used in the test Orientation on Society and the Political System is English.

Component II and Component III: Language Skills

During the Central tests, you must show that you have sufficient command of English and Dutch language. You must have command of the language on the level of an elementary user (A2).

The language tests consist of four test sections:

1. Speaking (fluency)
2. Listening Comprehension
3. Reading Comprehension
4. Writing

The following quote describes the level of command of an elementary user according to the 'Common European Framework of Reference':
"Is able to understand sentences and common expressions related matters of direct relevance (for instance personal data, family, shopping, local geography, work). Can communicate by way of simple and common tasks that require straightforward exchange on familiar and daily matters. Can describe in simple language aspects of our own background, immediate environment and matters in the field of various general needs."

Test dates

The assigned test dates for the new registration for **November** (in the current year) will be in **March** (of the following year). All nine tests of the three components will be administered during a two-day period. One day is assigned to administer Components I & II and one day to administer Component III.

Detailed overview

The table below and the tables on the following pages show a detailed overview of the test content and structure.

Component I: Orientation on Society and the Political System		
Test section and content Test format ¹		Questions, duration, passing
1. Work and income 2. Social interaction, values, and norms 3. Living 4. Health and health care 5. History and geography 6. Institutions 7. Political organization and the constitutional state 8. Education and upbringing		Multiple-choice test with 30 questions of three alternatives to be answered online. Will be administered in 45 minutes. Result is reported Pass or Fail.

¹ See details from page 18

Component II: English Language Skills*
and
Component III: Dutch Language skills*

****Information is subject to change by the Netherlands***

1. Speaking

<i>Test section and content</i>	Subjects and situations which the candidate may encounter in daily life, at school or in his/her profession.
<i>Test format</i>	Individual session comprising of reading or listening to several scenarios presented digitally. The candidate responds to the situations presented by recording the audio on the computer.
<i>Number of questions</i>	Five scenarios. Result is reported Pass or Fail.
<i>Duration</i>	35 minutes

2. Listening

<i>Test section and content</i>	Subjects and situations which the candidate may encounter in daily life, at school or in his/her profession.
<i>Test format</i>	Individual session comprising of listening to several assignments on the computer, involving daily concerns and interactions. The candidate must answer multiple-choice questions on the computer.
<i>Number of questions</i>	Maximum 25 multiple-choice questions. Result is reported Pass or Fail. .
<i>Duration</i>	45 minutes

Component II: English Language Skills* and Component III: Dutch Language skills*	
<i>*Information is subject to change by the Netherlands</i>	
3. Reading	
<i>Test section and content</i>	Subjects and situations which the candidate may encounter in daily life, at school or in his/her profession.
<i>Test format</i>	Individual session comprising of listening to several assignments on the computer, involving daily concerns and interactions. The candidate must answer multiple-choice questions on the computer.
<i>Number of questions</i>	Maximum 26 multiple-choice questions. Result is reported Pass or Fail.
<i>Duration</i>	65 minutes
4. Writing	
<i>Test section and content</i>	Subjects and situations which the candidate may encounter in daily life, at school or in his/her profession.
<i>Test format</i>	Individual session comprising of reading several assignments on the computer, involving daily concerns and interactions. Several scenarios require the candidate to fill in gaps to complete assignments or fill out forms on the computer.
<i>Number of questions</i>	Five scenarios. Result is reported Pass or Fail.
<i>Duration</i>	50 minutes

Applying for the tests

You can register by filling in the registration form online as mentioned in the ad. To take the tests, you must comply with several requirements.

Requirements:

- ❖ You can only register for the naturalization test via the online form¹.
- ❖ You must pay the test fees at the entities listed below.

You can register **ONLY** on the dates assigned by Division of Examinations. When filling in the registration form, you also must email the following documents:

- Original Identification Card (I.D)
- Original passport (page with picture)
- Registration form (basis uittreksel). It may be older than six months if your current home address is on it.

After filling in the registration form online:

1. You will receive an invoice with the exam costs (see next page)
2. You are required to deposit all the examination fees on Windward Island Bank Account number 32480003 or at the Receivers Office
3. Email a copy of the payment receipt before the deadline of 12.00 pm.

Financial liability with regards to courses and tests

Taking courses and tests costs money. However, there are no government provisions to cover these costs. This means you will have to pay these costs yourself. The course providers are fully autonomous, so they determine the fees for their courses. Government has no say in or influence on the fees charged for courses.

¹ <https://forms.gle/rLcM5WMviwWhBtFYA>

Test fees

The test fees are stipulated in the Regulations by the Minister of Justice of the Netherlands of 15 December 2010, under number 5678825/10 as an adaptation of the Naturalization Test Regulations Sint Maarten.

Registration for Examinations (first time)		
Test	Description	Cost
Component I	○ Orientation on Society & Political system	XCG. 275, -
Component II	○ English Language Skills	XCG. 225, -
Component III	○ Dutch Language Skills	XCG. 110, -

Registration for RE-Examinations		
Test	Description	Cost
Component I	○ Orientation on Society & Political system	XCG. 140, -
Component II	○ English Language Skills*	*XCG. 225,-
	○ Reading Comprehension	XCG. 75,-
	○ Writing	XCG. 75,-
	○ Listening Comprehension	XCG. 75,-
Component III	○ Dutch Language Skills*	*XCG. 110,-
	○ Reading Comprehension	XCG. 37,-
	○ Writing	XCG. 37,-
	○ Listening Comprehension	XCG. 37,-
	○ Speaking	XCG. 37,-

**Note:*

- ❖ *If you retake/resit just one section of a Language Skills test it is XCG. 75,- (English) and/or XCG. 37,- (Dutch) per section.*
- ❖ *If you retake/resit 3 or more sections, you pay only XCG. 225, - (English) and/or XCG. 110, - (Dutch)*
- ❖ *You must deposit the test fees with your invoice, as specified by the Division of Examinations (see details on page 9).*

Procedure after registration

When you register, the Division of Examinations will email you with confirmation of all the components and/or sections you have (re-) registered for and all the documents that you have submitted.

With this confirmation, it is mentioned when you can expect your summons (test notice) via email.

The summons will state the date, location, start time and other requirements about test administration (such as presenting valid identification, etc.).

Please refer to the general test rules and regulations on page 14.

The Division of Examinations will only communicate with a registered candidate via email, so ensure that the email you provide is valid and one you sign into often to check emails.

What must you pay attention to?

Always arrive on time.

For the first Component, the summons will indicate the time that you must be present on the examination date.

If you show up late, you will not be allowed to take the test.

You will then have to re-register and pay again.

You must also bring your printed summons and valid proof of identity.

Results

You must score a sufficient grade for each test component. You will be informed of the result via email when the results are provided to us from the Netherlands. The tentative result date will be noticeable in your summons. The results will be emailed to you and if a retake date is available, it will be noted.

If you have passed all the components, you will receive a verification email with your personal information. Confirming your personal information via email is the last step to having your certificate printed.

Retesting

If you have failed the test or components/sections of the test, you may retake that part of the test. You must re-register ¹via the Division of Examinations. The tentative resits exam dates are mid-October and end-January, which will be published in the media.

Certificate

You will receive the Certificate of the naturalization test once you have scored satisfactory results for all tests (Components I, II and III). Upon receiving the Certificate of the naturalization test, you can make an appointment at the Cabinet of the Governor of Sint Maarten to finalize the naturalization process.

¹ <https://forms.gle/EsysrqCLXjtWdRbi9>

Appendix

You can practice on the computer.

Below you will find a sample question of each test component. These will give you an impression of what to expect.

Component I: Orientation on Society and the Political system

Sint Maarten is

- A Dutch colony.
- Autonomous country within the Kingdom.
- Part of the European Union.

Component II English and Component III Dutch Language skills

Reading:

<https://teletoets.optimumassessment.com/spa/assessment-login/#/G47W>

Listening:

<https://teletoets.optimumassessment.com/spa/assessment-login/#/T5MW>

Speaking:

<https://teletoets.optimumassessment.com/spa/assessment-login/#/EHF2>

Writing:

<https://teletoets.optimumassessment.com/spa/assessment-login/#/L8FQ>

Oefentoets Spreken:

<https://teletoets.optimumassessment.com/spa/assessment-login/#/B9VU>

Oefentoets Luisteren:

<https://teletoets.optimumassessment.com/spa/assessment-login/#/JP9T>

Oefentoets Lezen:

<https://teletoets.optimumassessment.com/spa/assessment-login/#/PSV8>

Oefentoets Schrijven:

<https://teletoets.optimumassessment.com/spa/assessment-login/#/JFTT>

Other updated links are:

Click on <https://www.inburgeren.nl/examen-doen/oefenen.jsp>

Choose from the three options to practice Spreken, Luisteren, Lezen and Schrijven.

Test Regulations

Based on the Stipulations of the Statute Law on Dutch nationality in the Netherlands Antilles, section 8, part one, introduction and under d.

There are regulations for taking part in the naturalization test, which you are required to comply with.

A General rules

1. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Sport Sint Maarten, through Division of Examinations, is the official entity/ authorized body to administer the naturalization test.
2. The candidate will receive an email confirmation after (s) he has registered at the Division of Examinations and paid the test fees.
3. The candidate will receive the email summons from the Division of Examinations, at the latest 10 workdays before the test.
4. The naturalization test comprises of three components:
Component I: Orientation on Society and the Political System and
Component II: English Language Skills and
Component III: Dutch Language Skills.
5. The Division of Examinations can choose the order to administer the tests, depending on the availability of the exam room.
6. The candidate must score a sufficient mark for each section of a test.
7. Component I, II and III will be computer-generated, except for the section for English Speaking.
8. No separate appeal or protest can be lodged against the evaluation as it does not jeopardize the candidate's interests other than his/her request for naturalization. The evaluation of the results of the naturalization test is merely of importance in the light of the final decision on requests for naturalization.

9. The candidate will be notified via email of the results for the respective test components, at the latest 15 workdays after the test.
10. The Division of Examinations is authorized to grant Certificates of the naturalization test to the candidates that have passed the test.
11. You may finalize naturalization at the Cabinet¹ of the Governor of Sint Maarten, after you receive the certificate of naturalization.
12. If a candidate has failed any part of a test, (s)he will be eligible to sit a retest. Retesting will be administered when dates are available.
13. With regards to retesting, the Division of Examinations will publish a notice in the media.
14. The candidate must re-register at the Division of Examinations and pay the stipulated test fees before (s)he is allowed to participate in the retesting sessions.
15. A candidate is eligible for dispensation and exemption from the test if he meets the requirements as stipulated in the Statute Law. The Governor is authorized to consider petitions to this end.
16. Requests for dispensation must be submitted to the Governor.
17. Information about the rules and regulations governing dispensation and exemption can be obtained from the Cabinet of the Governor of St. Maarten

¹ Cabinet of the Governor of Sint Maarten, Falcon drive 2, Harbour view, Philipsburg, Sint Maarten (Tel.: (1721)542 1160, E-mail: kabinet@kabgxm.com)

B Regulations during the test

1. For each exam day, the summons will indicate the time that you must be present.
2. If a candidate arrives late, and instruction for the test has already started, (s)he will not be allowed to participate in the test.
3. In this case, the candidate will be eligible to take part in the resit, however (s)he will have to pay again.
4. It is not permitted to bring friends and/or relatives or a dictionary to the test.
5. For admittance to the test, you must show your printed summons and legitimate proof of identity (a valid ID card, license or passport). Without valid ID you cannot participate in the test.
6. Concerning the dress code, we wish to draw your attention to what IS expected of your attire: Presentable wholesome business attire; Showing NO evidence of inappropriate display of flesh (e.g. midriff, décolletage, thigh-high, strapless, jeans trousers or ripped clothing); and appropriate conservative business inspired shoes (e.g. NO slippers, sandals, peep-toe and sneakers of any kind).
7. You must sign the attendance list.
8. You are not allowed to carry paper, pens, pencils or other writing utensils into the examination room.
9. You are not allowed to take food or drinks into the examination room.
10. Your handbag and mobile phone (preferably turned off!) must be placed at the assigned table or locker.
11. Smoking is prohibited in the examination room.
12. During the test, you are not allowed to talk to the other candidates or to the supervisor.
13. You are not allowed to ask the supervisor questions about the contents of the test prior to, during or after the test.

14. You are not allowed to cause a disturbance or disrupt the procedures. If you cause disturbance, you will receive one (1) warning. The second time around, you will be asked to leave the room/premises.
15. You are not allowed to leave the examination room for the duration of the test, unless you must make an urgent trip to the bathroom.
16. Visits to the bathroom must be as brief as possible and will take place under the surveillance of a supervisor. Time will not be added.
17. When you have finished Component I, II and III you call the supervisor in the computer lab at the Division of Examinations.
18. You may leave the room when the test session is concluded.
19. In case of fraud prior to, during or after the test, the candidate in question will be discharged immediately and expelled from the examination room and the test results will be invalidated.
20. A candidate, who was unable to attend the test, is eligible for retesting. However, this is only allowed under the following conditions:
 - The only valid reason for absence is illness or a funeral of a close relative of the first or second degree.
 - Proof of absence must be submitted to the Division of Examinations on the first workday after the date of the test in question.
 - The candidate is eligible for retesting depending on availability. In this case (and only in this case), a candidate need not pay for retesting. In all other cases a candidate must pay the test fee again to gain access to the retesting sessions.

Final Objectives

Component I: Orientation on Society and the Political System

1.1 The eight essential domains are:

1. Work and income
2. Social interaction, values and norms
3. Living
4. Health and health care
5. History and geography
6. Institutions
7. Political organization and the constitutional state
8. Education and upbringing

1.2 Detailed objectives for the eight essential domains of Orientation on Society and the Political System:

1. *Work and income*
The candidate can undertake steps to seek and regain employment and to provide for him/her.
2. *Social interaction, values and norms*
The candidate knows how to proceed with local manners, values and norms.
3. *Living*
The candidate can look for adequate housing and regulate utilities. (S)he takes care of the safety in the home, and the environment and a clean-living environment.
4. *Health and health care*
The candidate can make use of existing health care.

5. *History and geography*
With knowledge of history and geography, the candidate can be involved in the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the society of the Caribbean islands that form part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.
6. *Institutions*
The candidate is informed regarding the services of the local government, the tax services, the police and the organizations for social and legal assistance.
7. *Political organization and the constitutional state*
By knowing the political organization of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Caribbean islands that for part of that Kingdom, the candidate can be involved in the society in which s(h)e lives.
8. *Education and upbringing*
The candidate knows the educational system and acknowledges the importance of education in society and attaches great importance to minor children attending school.

Component II and III - English and Dutch Language Skills:

I SPEAKING

Objectives

The candidate:

1. has the oral skills and linguistics means to express him-/herself in situations concerning daily life, school and profession.
2. can ask for and give advice.
3. can describe an event.
4. can apologize.
5. can request, complain and indicate differences.
6. can judge and evaluate.
7. can paraphrase.
8. knows the forms of address.
9. can say his name, explain who he wants to talk to, indicate what he is calling about, say he will call back and say goodbye.
10. can carry on short, simple telephone conversations.
11. can ask someone to spell something.

Test content:

- Asking for the meaning of an unknown word or concept.
- Making or changing an appointment.
- Requesting information.
- Introducing himself or someone else.
- Apologizing, congratulating, and asking for directions, exchanging a product in a store.
- Praising, approving.

Subjects

- Subjects that the candidate may encounter in daily life.
- Subjects that the candidate may encounter at school.
- Subjects that the candidate may encounter professionally.
- Short routine telephone conversations.

II LISTENING

Objectives

The candidate:

1. can understand in general (global listening) what is said in a listening fragment.
2. can recognize and select specific information from a listening fragment.
3. can predict the probable message of certain contents.
4. understands listening fragments in face-to-face as in non-face-to-face situations.
5. understand simple descriptions, help that is offered, complaints, apologies and warnings.
6. can understand information, advice and/or explanations.

Types of texts

- Informative texts.
- Persuasive texts.
- Directive texts.

Test content:

- Announcements from radio and TV programs.
- Instructions e.g. by traffic police.
- Appointments, commercials in a supermarket.
- Telephone operators and automatic information services.
- Weather reports.

Subjects

- Subjects that the candidate may encounter in daily life.
- Subjects that the candidate may encounter at school.
- Subjects that the candidate may encounter professionally.

III READING

Objectives

The candidate:

1. must be able to read intensively (close reading, comprehension) and extensively (global reading, scanning).
2. can recognize and comprehend words, phrases and text fragments, and see connections between words, phrases and text fragments.
3. recognizes and comprehends the essence of a text.
4. is able to find terms, notions, names, numbers in authentic texts and letters within a limited time.

Types of texts

- Informative texts.
- Instructional texts.
- Persuasive texts.
- Formalized texts.

Test content:

- Standard letters, notes and memos for e.g. school trips, parent-teacher meetings.
- Instructions, e.g., in a phone booth or on a soft drink vending machine.
- Reports, messages, announcements, advertisements in newspapers.

Subjects

- Subjects that the candidate may encounter in daily life.
- Subjects that the candidate may encounter at school.
- Subjects that the candidate may encounter professionally.

IV WRITING

Objectives

The candidate:

1. has the writing skills and linguistics means to express him-/herself in situations concerning daily life, school and profession.
2. can ask for and provide information.
3. can describe objects, people, actions and situations.
4. can fill out forms and write simple letters.
5. can write simple words, in correct spelling.
6. can recognize deliberately misspelled words in sentences and correct these.

Types of texts

- Individual (completion) sentences.
- Short, simple texts.
- Short, simple letters.
- Forms.

Subjects

- Subjects that the candidate may encounter in daily life.
- Subjects that the candidate may encounter at school.
- Subjects that the candidate may encounter professionally.



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<https://www.sintmaartengov.org/services/Pages/Naturalization-Test.aspx>

