



The Government of Sierra Leone
MONUMENTS & RELICS COMMISSION



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE NEXT CONFERMENT OF CITIZENSHIP TO DIASPORA SIERRA LEONEANS
TAKES PLACE IN APRIL 2023**

Freetown: FEBRUARY 1, 2023-The Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Monuments and Relics Commission and partners are pleased to announce that the next conferment of citizenship on diaspora Sierra Leoneans takes place between April 20-30, 2023

Prospective Sierra Leoneans who intend claiming their citizenship are advised to do the necessary DNA testing/genealogy test, contact a local tour operator to start the process.

The Homecoming of the Sierra Leone African Diaspora to the Motherland is a natural monumental heritage conservation that the government of Sierra Leone is engendering for the resilience of the African identity globally.

Please find below guidelines for the successful acquisition of Sierra Leonean citizenship through DNA.



**GUIDELINES AND DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR AFRICAN DIASPORA
ACCESSION OF PASSPORTS/CITIZENSHIP FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF
SIERRA LEONE**

All applicants for African diaspora accession of citizenship **MUST** go through a certified local tour operator in Sierra Leone. A list of the certified Tour Operators is published on the following websites: <https://ntb.gov.sl/tour-operators>

1. A letter of request should be addressed to the Government of Sierra Leone through the Monuments and Relics Commission indicating intent on the subject matter. The letter should include your full name as indicated on your passport, current street address, phone number and e-mail address.
2. Proof of descent to Sierra Leone should be done to prove either Maternal or Paternal lineage. (please note that this should be done from either African Ancestry Inc. - africanancestry.com - or any other DNA company that explicitly state maternal or paternal lineage.) A copy of the result kit report and certificate of ancestry must be submitted.
3. Live birth certificate and proof of change of name on live birth certificate where applicable.
4. Bio data page of present citizenship passport.
5. References (at least 2): Each applicant must submit a notarized reference letter from a person of high reputation from their State of Residence. (Eg: Personal Lawyers, Primary Care Physician, Banker, Employer or Educational Institution).
6. Each applicant **MUST** submit a Certified State and Federal Police Report. The government will do a thorough background check of all applicants.
7. The government will also check the authenticity of the African Ancestry, Inc. Certificate or any other certificate submitted.
8. It is mandatory for all applicants to be in Sierra Leone at least 5 days before the slated date for citizenship conferment for finger printing, immigration interviews and other administrative processes. Applicants are also mandated to attend a day's Heritage/Civic Education and Business/Investment Workshop-organized by the Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs and Monuments and Relics Commission.



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All applicants must pay \$250 or the prevailing exchange rate in Leones as a fee for the mandatory Heritage/Civic Education and Business Investment Workshop, Reception after Citizenship Conferment Ceremony and facilitation of passport & naming ceremony. Tour Operators are reminded to please include the said fee (\$250) in their charges.

9. With the above cleared, a request will be made by Monuments and Relics Commission to the Immigration department for onward passport processing via the Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs.

10. Conferment would be done on a date between April 20-30, 2023

11. An Oath of allegiance to the country would be done in front of the President during the conferment ceremony.

12. Please direct all inquiries by phone to +23276642401, +23276387711, +23278236151 or by email to mfkargbo@gmail.com, or fm.momoh@mrcsl.org and annmariekay81@gmail.com

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR INTEREST IN RECLAIMING YOUR HERITAGE