

Conversion of PIO card to OCI card

PIO Card Validity Extended up to September 30, 2020

Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that Bureau of Immigration (BoI) will accept all Person of Indian Origin (PIO) cards (including handwritten PIO cards) as valid travel document till September 30, 2020, along with valid foreign passport. All Indian Immigration Check Post (s) will continue to consider PIO cards valid for exit from / entry into India till 30th September, 2020 instead of earlier circulated deadline i.e. 31st March, 2020. This extension of timeline is subject to the condition that if in the meantime any deadline is notified by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) thereby making handwritten PIO cards invalid, then PIO cardholders may have to obtain appropriate visa from Indian Missions / Posts.

All PIO cardholders are meanwhile advised to convert their PIO cards to OCI cards well in time.

- (a) OCI card is a smart card;
- (b) Possession of an OCI card will facilitate quicker immigration clearance at Immigration Check Posts;
- (c) It will help in obtaining various Consular Services from Indian Missions/Posts;
- (d) For those who are resident in India, it will facilitate in availing various services in India.
 - The fee for conversion of PIO card to OCI card is \$100. The fees for issuance of fresh OCI cards will remain as \$275.
 - Details regarding obtaining OCI in lieu of PIO card can be seen at <https://www.in.ckgs.us/pio/index.shtml>.