How to apply for a change of name (for people who are not born in Australia)

At the time of your application, you must have been living in NSW for the last three years consecutively.

Did you know? In NSW, you may only change your name once in a 12 month period and three times in your lifetime.

Important documents

Identity documents (ID)

You must provide three current ID (not expired). At least one document must show your place of birth and date of birth. If you are applying by post, please enclose copies certified by a Justice of the Peace.

Proof of residency in NSW

You must provide a document for the current year (issued in the last three months) plus one for each of the previous three years.

Example: to apply in 2019, you must have lived in NSW in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 (a total of FOUR documents).

Do I really need a change of name?

Change of name by marriage

If you were married in Australia, a standard marriage certificate issued by a Registry of Births Deaths & Marriages in the state you were married, is proof of your new name.

If you were married overseas, you should check with the organisation requesting your identity documents (e.g. Australian Passports Office) before you apply to change your name.

What if my date of birth is incorrect?

To have this corrected, you must contact the Department of Home Affairs before you apply for a change of name.

Application forms

For an adult: you must be 18 years of age or older, provide proof of identity and residency, and disclose any criminal records.

For a child: both parent/s (if recorded on the birth certificate) must apply on behalf of the child and provide ID for themselves and their child. You must also disclose any criminal records for the child.

Fees and certificate/s

The fee is $190* when you lodge your application (or $244* for priority processing). This includes:

- application fee (non-refundable)*
- standard certificate fee

*Application fees will not be refunded if your application is incomplete, non-compliant or refused. See website for current fees.

How to apply

Download an application at:

- www.bdm.nsw.gov.au

Applying by post: enclose certified copies of ID.

- NSW Registry of Births Deaths & Marriages
  GPO Box 30
  SYDNEY NSW 2001

Applying in person: bring your original ID.

- at a Registry office:
  - 35 Regent St, Chippendale
  - 160 Marsden St, Parramatta

- or at your nearest Service NSW centre
  www.service.nsw.gov.au

Contact us

Phone: 13 77 88 | www.bdm.nsw.gov.au
Hearing/Speech impaired (NRS: 1300 555 727 or TTY: 133 677)
Translating and Interpreting Service: 131 450

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