

Policy : Gender Identity / Transgender passport applicants

Changing sex / gender details

Background

Some applicants maintain a sex / gender identity that differs from that shown on their birth or citizenship record. These applicants may wish to have their passport issued showing their new gender identity.

A passport may now be issued in an applicant's preferred sex / gender of, M (male), F (female) or X (indeterminate/unspecified), without the requirement to amend their birth or citizenship record.

Policy statements

Click on a heading below.

Change in Sex / Gender Identity (Gender as 'F' 'M' or X)

- Applicants must complete the Adult General Form.
- Complete a Statutory Declaration indicating
 - The sex / gender identity they wish to be displayed in their passport (M,F or X)
 - How long they have maintained their current gender identity

Applicants must meet all other normal passport requirements.

These applications must be reviewed prior to issue by a Business Support Officer.

Applicants under 18 years of Age

Applicants under 18 years of age are required to provide the following additional information.

- A Statutory Declaration from the parent or legal guardian which supports the change in gender identity in their passport.
- A Statutory Declaration from a registered counsellor / medical professional which supports this change.

Applications for applicants under the age of 18 years of age must be referred to the Operations Manager for approval

Multiple Changes in Gender Identity

While this new policy was developed to remove unnecessary obstacles in recording a person's preferred gender in their passport, multiple changes in a person's gender may have implications for a person at overseas border controls, affect their ability to confirm their identity in the wider community and increases risks around identity fraud.

Applicants must be advised of the following risks prior to progression of their application

- possible implications at overseas border controls; and
- difficulties confirming their identity in the wider community

Applicants applying to change their gender identity more than once, e.g. from M to F and then wishes to return to M again, must provide their previous passport with their application. The passport should be cancelled and returned to the applicant.

If the passport has been lost or stolen, the lost/stolen declaration and Police report are required.

When an applicant is requesting more than one change in gender identity, the application must be approved by the Operations Manager.

Changing the gender details recorded on your New Zealand birth record

This change has no effect on the Births, Deaths and Marriages and Relationships Registration Act 1995 which allows for an adult or guardian of an eligible child to apply to the New Zealand Family Court for a declaration to have their birth record reflect their nominated gender.

A New Zealand Family Court Declaration is sufficient to change a person's sex / gender identity in their passport.

Legislation

[Births Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1995](#)

Sections:

[28 Declarations of Family Court as to sex to be shown on birth certificates issued for adults](#)

[29 Declarations of Family Court as to appropriate gender identity for children.](#)

Changing the gender details recorded on your Citizenship Certificate

A citizenship certificate or evidentiary certificate may be issued with the sex field shown as different from the sex shown on the applicant's birth certificate.

An evidentiary certificate issued by the Citizenship Office is sufficient to change a persons sex / gender identity in their passport.

Legislation

Citizenship Act 1997 A citizenship certificate or evidentiary certificate may be issued with the sex field shown as different from the sex shown on the applicant's birth certificate.

Further information regarding this process is available on

[http://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/Files/Citpol15Transgendercitapp/\\$file/Citpol15Transgenderandintersexcitapp.pdf](http://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/Files/Citpol15Transgendercitapp/$file/Citpol15Transgenderandintersexcitapp.pdf)

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