

CHANGING SEX / GENDER DETAILS

A passport may now be issued in an applicant's preferred sex / gender of M (male), F (female) or X (indeterminate/unspecified), without the need to amended these details on your birth or citizenship record.

What do I need to apply for a passport in my preferred sex / gender identity?

- You will need to complete the New Adult application form
(Link [http://www.passports.govt.nz/vwluResources/adult-new-form.pdf/\\$file/adult-new-form.pdf](http://www.passports.govt.nz/vwluResources/adult-new-form.pdf/$file/adult-new-form.pdf))
- Complete a Statutory Declaration indicating
 - The sex / gender identity you wish to be displayed in your passport (M,F or X)
 - How long you have maintained your current sex / gender identity

Applicants must meet all other usual passport requirements.

Applicants under 18 years of Age

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

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

Multiple Changes in Sex / Gender Identity

While this new policy was developed to remove unnecessary obstacles for applicants wanting to record a change in their gender identity, we would like applicants to note that multiple changes in gender identity are likely to have implications for a person at overseas border controls or may affect a person's ability to confirm their identity in the wider community.

The Department recommends that prior to applying for a change in sex / gender details in your passport, that applicants carefully consider these implications.

Where there has been more than one change in gender identity, applicants are required to submit their previous passport with their passport application. This passport will be cancelled, defaced and returned to you.

The Department of Internal Affairs reserves the right to request the return of the passport or travel document at any time.

The gender details recorded on your New Zealand birth record

This new passport policy 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.

Further information regarding this process is available on

http://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/wpg_URL/Services-Births-Deaths-and-Marriages-Information-for-Transgender-Applicants?OpenDocument)

Changing the gender details recorded on your Citizenship Certificate

Only the passports policy has been reviewed. The new passports policy has no effect on the process for changing gender details recorded on a citizenship certificate or evidentiary 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 if:

- the applicant has provided a Family Court declaration, or
- the applicant has provided a court order or other official documentation from another country recognising the gender identity they are currently maintaining, which is assessed as being suitable, or
- the applicant is of indeterminate sex and wishes for their certificate to be issued showing either male or female sex, and
- the applicant has changed his or her name by name change declaration, deed poll or similar instrument, to a name more suitable to a member of the nominated sex, or has a unisex name, and
- the applicant lives as a member of the nominated sex and has produced a statutory declaration to this effect.

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)

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I apply Online or use the Renewal application form?

No. As you are changing the details recorded in your passport – you are not eligible to apply Online or use the Adult Renewal form.

Once you have had your passport issued in your new sex / gender identity, then you will be eligible to use the Online and Adult Renewal processes in the future, as long as you are not changing any further details.

I still have validity remaining on my current passport. Can this be transferred to a new passport in my new sex / gender identity?

No. Full application fees are payable. The remaining validity may not be transferred to a new passport.

How long do I have to maintain my new sex /gender identity, to be eligible to apply for a passport in this gender?

There is no defined timeframe.

Does the processing timeframe change? Will it take longer to issue my passport?

No. Standard processing timeframes apply. When we have all the information we need and the correct payment, we will process your application within the following timeframes.

Standard Service - up to 10 working days
Urgent Service – up to 3 working days

What do I need to do to change the sex / gender identity on other documents, e.g. driver license?

You will need to contact the relevant agency for advice on how to update their records.

Who can witness and sign the Statutory Declaration?

The Statutory Declaration may be witnessed and signed by

- A Justice of the Peace
- A member of Parliament
- A lawyer
- A registered Legal Executive (Fellow of NZILE)
- A Government Officer authorised to take statutory declarations.

Government Officers are available to witness a Statutory Declaration at the following Department of Internal Affairs offices ([link to office locations](#)).

Government Officers are also available at our Sydney and London offices or at your nearest New Zealand Embassy or High Commission.

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