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Gender Marker Change on Birth Certificates Frequently Asked Questions

How do I change the sex on my birth certificate?

An individual notarized application is required. The application is submitted to the Maine Vital Records office with a copy of your photo Id and \$15.00 for a certified copy of your birth certificate.

Can I complete the application at the State of Maine's Vital Records office?

The application must be notarized. Vital Records does have notaries, but you must call to make an appointment to ensure the notary is available.

Can I expect same day service to get my new certificate?

Vital Records will try to accommodate walk in requests but does have a 24 hour turn around on applications. If your application can not be processed while you wait, your certificate will be mailed to you.

Can I change my name on my birth certificate?

Adults and emancipated minors can change their first and middle names by submitting an individual notarized affirmation that the change is made to align the record with their gender identity. The only time a name can be changed administratively is for this purpose and needs to be requested at the same time as the gender marker change.

Will my certificate show that changes have been made?

A replacement record will be created. It will contain the same information as the original except will show the new name and sex designation. The original certificate shall be held as confidential and only the registrant or the registrant's legal representative shall have access to the original.

Can I change my child's name or sex certificate?

As with adults, these changes can be made only for purposes of aligning the certificate with the gender identity. Parents recorded on the birth certificate or legal guardians must submit a notarized attestation on the prescribed form. All parents listed on the certificate must sign and have their signatures notarized. The application must include a declaration of a licensed physician or mental health care provider who within the scope of their license and through a bona fide patient provider relationship, affirms that the requested gender is consistent with the minor's gender identity. Legal guardians must also provide a certified court order as proof of guardianship.

Is it possible to use a nonbinary option on my baby's certificate?

At the time of birth, parents may opt to have a nonbinary designation on the birth certificate. Both parents must show consent by signing the parent's worksheet. An X will display on the birth certificate.

If my baby has a nonbinary designation on their record can I change it later to the biological sex?

Yes, it can be changed using the amendment process at the time the request is made.