

Published based on [U.S. Passport Name Changes: The Principle Procedures](#)

U.S. Passport Name Changes: The Principle Procedures

If your name has been legally changed, you are going to need a [U S passport name change](#) as well. There are different procedures for this depending on your particular situation, such as how old your prior passport is. Depending on a several factors, there may be a fee involved and you may have to make your application in person.

If the issue date of your current passport is less than a year ago and your name has been changed legally through marriage or a court order, your passport will be reissued without a fee. The passport in your former name, along with a certified copy or original of the proof of name change and the application must be mailed in together. You also need to include two photos which are no more than 6 months old.

If your existing passport in your old name was issued more than one year ago, an alternative form must be used. It too can be mailed if you have the legal proof of your name change. However, in this case, you must also send in a fee along with the legal proof and the recent photos.

If you are unable to supply legal proof of your change in name, you must make your application in person. This situation is treated similarly to applying for a new passport. You will be required to show at least three forms of public records which detail your assumed name along with your birth place and date. They must show use of the name for at least five years.

Children who are less than 16 years of age must also apply in person for their passports and provide the same documents. They must be accompanied by their parents or guardians as well who will need to show legal proof of their relationship. The general requirements for passports for minors should be reviewed so that you have all the necessary documentation when you arrive at the agency.

Keep in mind that it can take four to six weeks, or even up to ten, to receive your new passport. If you have a need for it sooner, it is best to request your [United States passport application](#) to be expedited. In this case, you will also need to include the additional fee for this service. This service can be requested for any passport application.

Expedited passports can still take two to three weeks to arrive. If you have an emergency that requires getting your updated passport sooner, you will need to call the National Passport Information Center to make an appointment, or contact a passport expediting service.

As with all passport applications, if you are mailing a [pass port name change](#), be sure that you package everything up securely. It is best to send it in a way that can be traced. It is also best to send in your application as soon as your name changes, rather than wait until you are actually planning a trip.

You can also find this article published on [U.S. Passport Name Changes: The Principle Procedures](#), and on the tag pages [least five years](#), [passport name change](#), [united states passport application](#).