

NAME CHANGES FOR MINORS IN Oregon



What are the legal requirements for a minor born in Oregon?

If a minor was born in Oregon, no court order is required to change their legal name on the birth certificate. A parent on the birth record or the minor's legal guardian can request the name and/or sex designation on an Oregon birth certificate be changed to support the minor's gender identity. Use this form and instructions to update the legal name and/or gender on the birth certificate:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/BIRTHDEATHCERTIFICATES/CHANGEVITALRECORDS/Documents/OHA-2673.pdf>. Once you update the name and gender on the birth certificate you should be able to use that documentation to update the child's other documents and records.

Please note: For a minor born in Oregon you may still petition the court for a name and gender change order should you need one for other reasons. If desired use the instructions below.

What are the legal requirements for a minor not born in Oregon?

If a minor was not born in Oregon, or otherwise needs a court order to change their legal name on documentation, follow the below instructions. The parent, legal guardian, or legal representative for the child should fill out a petition for change of name. The petitioner will have to send written notice to other parents and legal guardians.

Where should I file the petition?

You should file the petition in the circuit court of the county in which the minor resides. ORS 33.410. Find your circuit court here: <https://www.courts.oregon.gov/courts/Pages/default.aspx>.

What is the process and what forms should I use?

1. Fill out the Petition for Change of Name / Sex and Judgment for Change of Name / Sex forms, file at the circuit court, and get a case number.
2. After you get a case number, send written notice to the other parent, unless the child has not lived with the other parent and the other parent does not contribute (and has not tried to contribute) to the support of the child, both parents (if the petitioner is not a parent), and all legal guardians.

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3. After you send notice, complete and file the Declaration of Notice form with the court.

Instructions and forms are available here:

<https://www.courts.oregon.gov/forms/Documents/Name-Sex%20Change-PACKET-Minor.pdf>

You may want to request more than one certified copy of the name change order, since certified copies may be required to update the minor's legal name with other agencies.

Does the process require parental consent?

Parent consent is not required, however notice must be provided to both custodial and non-custodial parents and to any legal guardian of the minor if the consent of a parent is not given. *ORS 33.420*. Notice need not be given to a parent of the minor if the other parent of the minor files a verified statement in the change of name proceeding that asserts that the minor has not resided with the other parent and that the other parent has not contributed or tried to contribute to the support of the minor. *ORS 33.420*

Does the process require publication in a newspaper?

No.

What will the judge consider?

The court will grant the change of name unless it finds that the change is not consistent with public interest. *ORS 33.410*

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