



## GENDER CLINIC

# Changing your name

### **Oregon laws about changing your name**

If you want to change your name in the state of Oregon, you usually need to fill out a form called a "petition." You may use the form to change your name and your gender at the same time. The forms are online at [www.courts.oregon.gov/](http://www.courts.oregon.gov/)

You do not usually need to go to court. If you do, the court will send you a letter called a "hearing notice." When the court accepts your name change, you will get a letter called Notice of Entry of Judgment. You can contact the court to get a copy of your official name change, called the judgment.

### **If you were born in Oregon**

If you were born in Oregon, you can change your name on your birth certificate without the court ordering that it should happen.

### **Finding more information for Oregon and other states**

Visit the National Center for Transgender Equality website at [transequality.org/documents](http://transequality.org/documents). You can find instructions on changing your legal name if you are under 18 and live in Oregon.

If you live in another state, such as Washington or Idaho, you can use this website to look up your state and the type of records you want to change.

### **Changing your Oregon driver's license or ID**

You can change your name on your Oregon driver's license or ID. You need to go to a Department of Motor Vehicles office and give them your current license or ID. Then you need to:

1. Fill out an application for an ID or driver's license. This could be a renewal or replacement ID. It could be an original ID or license if you have not had one in Oregon before. Your gender choices are M, F or X. Mark the choice that fits you best.
2. Pay the fee for your new driver's license or ID.
3. Have your photo taken.
4. Give the clerk proof of your legal name change, if you are also changing your name on the driver's license or ID.

You can find more information on changing your name or gender at the Oregon Department of Transportation website at [www.oregon.gov/ODOT/DMV](http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/DMV).

## Changing your Oregon birth certificate

If you were born in Oregon, you may change your name and gender on your birth certificate in one of 2 ways:

- Apply to have a judge order the change (court order)
- Use a notarized application.

A notarized application is signed by someone who is trained to make sure forms are correct. They stamp your form and keep an official record of it.

### Using a notarized application

Follow the steps below to use a notarized application.

1. Fill out the form called Application to Change Name and/or Sex on a Birth Record. Take it to a notary. You can usually find one at a bank. Some administrative professionals are notaries, too.
2. Sign your form in front of the notary. They will stamp it and record it, along with the date.
3. Go to the Oregon Vital Records office or send your application there. You will need:
  - A photocopy of your ID
  - Your notarized application
  - A form called a Birth Record Order Form
  - Money to pay the fees for your name change. Right now, this is \$35 to make the change and \$25 for every certified copy of the new birth certificate you would like. You may want to check on the fee amount before you go to the office or mail your items.

Applications can be submitted in person or by mail to the addresses below.

#### If you go in person

800 NE Oregon St, Suite 225  
Portland, OR 97232  
Hours: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

#### If you mail your items

Oregon Vital Records  
PO Box 14050  
Portland, OR 97293-0050

## When your application is approved

When your application is approved, you will get:

- A certified copy of your new birth certificate, if you ordered one
- A copy of the application you filled out
- A letter from the State Registrar showing your legal name change, gender change or both

## Changing your Social Security information

The Social Security Administration will accept your new birth certificate and letter from the State Registrar as evidence that you legally changed your name. The Social Security Administration has more information.

Visit [www.faq.ssa.gov](http://www.faq.ssa.gov).

## Using a court order to get a new birth certificate

You can get a court order to change your gender using the instructions for a name change above (Oregon laws about changing your name). You can use the same form, which has an area for changing your sex as well as your name.

Once you get the court order, you can send it to Oregon Vital Records or go in person. You will need:

- A photocopy of your ID
- Your court order
- A form called a Birth Record Order Form
- Money to pay the fees for your name change. Right now, this is \$35 to make the change and \$25 for every certified copy of the new birth certificate you would like. You may want to check on the fee amount before you go to the office or mail your items.

## Does your name change need to be public?

No. In the past, the law required you to give public notice when you changed your name or gender. But Oregon law no longer requires this. Telling people is your choice.

## Resources for more help

### National Center for Transgender Equality

Guides to changing all your federal and state identity documents.

[transequality.org](http://transequality.org)

### Basic Rights Oregon

[www.basicrights.org/](http://www.basicrights.org/)

For specific information on changing your documents, and the order to do this in, visit

[www.basicrights.org/know-your-rights/id-gender-marker-documents/](http://www.basicrights.org/know-your-rights/id-gender-marker-documents/)

### Outside In Trans ID Project

This organization has a Trans Services Coordinator who can help you go through the process of changing your documents. They can go to court in Multnomah County with you, if you need help. Outside In also offers some financial assistance.

503-535-3828

[outsidein.org](http://outsidein.org)

### BraveSpace

This organization offers limited scholarships to help with the costs of changing your documents.

[www.bravespacellc.com/scholarship](http://www.bravespacellc.com/scholarship)

## Financial assistance

You may apply to have the court waive (not charge) the application fees. The Trans Project at Outside In and scholarships from BraveSpace may also be able to help with costs.

## If you have questions

<b>If you need to do this ...</b>	<b>Please contact</b>
Make an appointment, ask a medical question, get a referral to another clinic or specialist or get a medication refill	Call <b>503-418-5710</b> or contact us through MyChart
Contact our psychologist	Call <b>503-494-6337</b> or contact them through MyChart
Get a referral to a community organization or support group	Call <b>503-494-7970</b> or contact us through MyChart
Contact our social worker	Call <b>503-484-7970</b> or contact them through MyChart
Learn more about the OHSU Transgender Health Program	Go to <a href="http://www.ohsu.edu/transgender-health">www.ohsu.edu/transgender-health</a>