

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

ACLU Nevada

NAME CHANGES, GENDER MARKERS, AND BIRTH CERTIFICATES

The process of officially changing your name and gender marker on identity documents can be intimidating, but Nevada laws and policies respect the rights of people who are transgender, nonbinary, genderqueer, gender-nonconforming and more to have their identities reflected on their IDs.

What Gender Options Does the State of Nevada Offer?

Nevada residents may officially change their gender on all state documents to X, F, or M. An individual may apply for gender marker change for both their state ID or Driver's License and their birth certificate.

The state does not require medical certification, but notarized affidavits may be necessary for updating a person's birth certificate in some situations.

How Can I Change My Name and Gender Marker for Gender Identity Purposes in Nevada?

The process for name and gender marker changes in Nevada is as simple as filling out a few forms and submitting them to the family court in your county.

In Clark County, the Family Law Self-Help Center has forms you can fill out and discuss with a staff member there. It is recommended that you have an attorney look over your forms before you submit them to the court to ensure the documents are filled out correctly and will not need to be resubmitted. Your local LGBTQ+ center may offer helpful services.

How Much Does it Cost to Obtain a Name and Gender Marker Change?

In Clark County, the fee to change your name and gender marker is \$270. If you cannot afford the filing fee, you can apply for a fee waiver. Fee waivers for other counties can be found by searching for the family court within that county.

You will also need to pay for 3 – 5 certified copies of



the court order, generally for a few dollars each.

Is it True That I Will Have to Publish My Name Change in a Newspaper?

No! If you are changing your name and/or gender for the purposes of gender identity, you do not have to publish the change in a newspaper. The purpose of the name change must be clear to the court.

Once Court Documents are Submitted, How Long Does the Process Take?

It depends. Generally, once the documents are submitted, you should expect a response from the court within a few weeks. Since name and gender changes must be approved by a judge, the length of the process depends on how quickly the documents can filter through the court system and be signed by the judge.

What Should I do Once I Receive the Name and Gender Change Order from the Court?

To have your name reflected on all of your documents, you must submit a certified court order of your name change to all the agencies where you seek to change your name, in addition to any other processes the agency requires.

Visit a Social Security Office to update your Social Security Card. You must do this before going to the DMV for an updated Driver's License.

Make a checklist of all your financial accounts and insurance providers!

How Can I Change My Birth Certificate?

If you were born in Nevada: For an updated Birth Certificate, you will need to go through the process prescribed by the Nevada Office of Vital Statistics. There is a fee for official certificates, and this may require a notarized affidavit.

If you were born outside of Nevada: Your state may have different rules for birth certificate changes. Consider contacting an LGBTQ+ organization in your birth state for tips.

Are There Any Reasons a Judge Would Deny My Request for a Name or Gender Marker Change?

A judge may deny the name and gender change request if they believe the request is made for criminal or fraudulent purposes, but generally, gender identity name and gender marker change requests are granted.

If I Have a Criminal Record or Felony, Can I Still Obtain a Name and Gender Marker Change?

Yes! However, the process is slightly different. In addition to all of the steps listed above, you must disclose your criminal record and submit a copy of your fingerprints to the court. You can be fingerprinted at various police stations in the state.

Find more Know Your Rights guides or request a training at aclunv.org/KYR.