

The New Jersey Name Change Process

1. Social Security

The Social Security Administration is the first office you will need to change your name with. File the SS-5 form along with your certified marriage certificate and your driver's license or U.S. passport. The SSA will mail your new social security card to you two weeks after they have processed your paperwork. The good news is that there is no fee associated with your filing!

2. IRS

Next up is the IRS. Changing your name with the IRS is straight forward. Simply complete the IRS 8822 form and mail it to their office address. Include a photocopy of your certified marriage certificate. This form is not required. However, filing it ensures that there will be no confusion about your name when tax returns are issued.

3. U.S. Passport

Depending on your current passport status, you will need to complete the DS-11, DS-82 or the DS-5504 form to update your name. The DS-81 and DS-5504 forms can be filed by mail. But, if you do not have a passport, you will need to file your DS-11 form in-person at a local Passport Office. All offices require you to file your completed form with a certified marriage certificate, two 2x2 photos, and the appropriate filing fee. If you've had your current passport for less than 12 months, it's free to file a new name on your passport. It's like a wedding gift from the State Department!

4. New Jersey Driver's License

To file for your new name on your driver's license in New Jersey, bring your social security card showing your new married name. You will also need to provide your birth certificate or U.S. passport along with proof of residence. Examples of proof of residence include utility bills or bank statements showing your New Jersey address. Your new driver's license will be issued the same day you apply for it. This is the one office you must file your forms in-person. Why? Because they must take a new photo to issue a license in a new name.

5. Creditors

Finally, once you have updated your name with all the federal and state government agencies, it is time to notify your creditors. This includes your employer, utilities, loan providers, banks, credit cards, insurances, mortgage providers, professional license boards, airline mile programs, gym members, etc. Many of these companies allow you to change your name over the phone. But some require you to submit a form and a certified marriage certificate before they can update your accounts.

Local DMV Locations

Flemington

181-B Routes 31 & 202
Ringoes, NJ 08551

Washington

404 E Washington Ave.
Washington, NJ 07882

“If your current legal name is different from the name that appears on your civil birth certificate then you must show legal proof of the name change. Legal proof includes a certified marriage or civil union certificate, a divorce decree or a court order linking the new name with the previous name. A divorce decree may be used as authority to resume using a previous name only if it contains the new name and the previous name, and permits the individual to once again use the previous name.

A name change can be processed at any [MVC Licensing Center](#) on a walk-in basis. Bring all the required documentation in order to complete this transaction, as well as your [“6 points” documents](#).

All documents must be original or certified copies and have the required municipal and/or State seals. To obtain certified copies of New Jersey records, you should contact the municipality that originally issued the document and/or contact the State Office of Vital Statistics and Registry by visiting www.nj.gov/health/vital or by calling (609) 292-4087. If your birth certificate was issued by Jersey City or Hudson County, and you were born before 1965, you must visit www.state.nj.us/health/vital/order-vital/jersey-city-hudson-county-records/ or call (609) 292-4087.

If the required documents for a name change are not in English, they must be accompanied by a translation from an approved translator or translation service. This list of approved translators may be viewed at: <https://www.njcourts.gov/sites/default/files/public/language-services/registry.pdf>

Certain documents may require proof of legal U.S. presence. To obtain a list of those documents, visit www.njmvc.gov or call the MVC’s Customer Support Line at (609) 292-6500 weekdays ([except holidays](#)) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.”

<https://www.nj.gov/mvc/drivertopics/namechange.htm>