



Fact Sheet
Removing the Sex Designation on a Marriage Certificate
 Registry of Vital Records and Statistics
 Massachusetts Department of Public Health



Massachusetts General Law allows for the removal of Sex of Party fields on a Massachusetts marriage certificate by means of an affidavit. In conjunction with a request to remove the Sex of Party fields, applicant(s) may amend name(s) in upon submission of a judicial change of name, if applicable. A new marriage certificate will be issued upon receipt of the evidence outlined below. Note that an amendment to remove Sex of Party fields will remove the field for both parties.

Evidence

The following documents are required:

1. The ***Applicant Affidavit to Remove the Sex Designations on a Marriage Certificate*** form.

Alternatively, a similar affidavit may be submitted that includes:

- Full name, date of marriage, place of marriage and spouse's name as appears on the subject's existing marriage certificate.
- The applicant's written request and authorization for a permanent amendment of the marriage certificate to remove Sex of Party fields on the certificate and, if applicable, to reflect a legal change of name.
- Contact information including current name and address. Providing a telephone number and/or email address is helpful.
- Applications must be signed and dated by both parties to the marriage.
- The affidavit must conclude with the following attestation: "I declare under the pains and penalties of perjury that the information above is true and accurate and not made for any fraudulent purpose. Upon signing, I am authorizing a permanent change to the marriage certificate as listed above."

2. A court-certified copy of the applicant's legal name change decree, if applicable.

To Apply

Apply by mail or by making an appointment with the city or town hall where you filed your Intention to Marry (where you applied for and received your marriage license). Include the required evidence as listed above. Please contact the local City or Town Clerk, or Boston Registrar, for more information and fees. A list of websites for Massachusetts cities and towns can be found at this link: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/massachusetts-city-and-town-websites>.

Basis

Chapter 46, §13(e) of the Massachusetts General Laws states:

(l) Upon application of both parties to a marriage, the record of marriage shall be amended to remove the sex of either or both parties to the marriage and change either or both parties' names upon receipt of the following by the state registrar or town clerk: (i) an affidavit executed by the parties to the marriage on a form provided by the registrar attesting to their concurrence that the record be amended to reflect or remove the gender identity or sex of the any such party; and (ii) a request by a party for a change of name along with evidence of the party's legal change of name.

For more information about legal changes of name	<p>To obtain information about legal changes of name, please contact your local Massachusetts Probate and Family Court. If you are not a Massachusetts resident, contact the court of appropriate jurisdiction in your area.</p> <p>Resources, forms, and instructions: http://www.mass.gov/courts/resources.html </p>
For more information about amending a birth certificate	<p>Please feel free to contact the Registry of Vital Records and Statistics for additional information:</p> <p>By Mail: Registry of Vital Records and Statistics 150 Mt. Vernon Street, 1st Floor Dorchester, MA 02125</p> <p>By Telephone: (617) 740-2600</p> <p>By Email: RVRSAmendments@mass.gov</p>