

# Adult change of name policy



# Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians



The Department of Justice and Attorney-General recognises and acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of Queensland and as the Traditional Custodians of Queensland's precious land and waters. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

We recognise and celebrate the unique and continuing position of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia's history, culture and future, and acknowledge their ongoing strength, resilience and wisdom. We are working to translate this recognition into fair, safe and inclusive practices, policies and services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

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## 1.0 Policy background

A person's name is an important part of who they are and how they are recognised in society. A name is not only a personal identity but also a legal one. In Queensland, the *Human Rights Act 2019* guarantees every person born in Queensland the right to have a name and be registered.

The *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 2023* (BDMR Act) acknowledges the significance of a person's name and requires that each child be given a name when their birth is registered. The law also understands that individuals may want to change their own name during their lifetime.

There are 3 main ways for a person living in Queensland to change their name:

1.	They can officially register a change of name with the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages (RBDM).
2.	They can adopt a new family name after getting married or entering a civil partnership. A marriage certificate or civil partnership certificate can generally be used to update a person's family name on their other identity documents without applying to us to change their name.
3.	They can start using a new name in the community. The law allows individuals to change their name through usage and reputation. However, this method does not create a formal record or allow the individual to update their name on official documents.

In the past, prior to 2004, people in Queensland could also change their name by filing a 'deed poll' in the Supreme Court. However, a change in legislation removed this option.

## 2.0 Purpose of policy

The purpose of this policy is to outline the processes, and legislative and policy considerations, for registration of name changes for adults under the BDMR Act.

This policy addresses:

- who is eligible to apply for a name change or to note a name change
- limits on the number of name changes a person can have as an adult
- documents and information needed to support a 'change of name application'
- additional requirements for some 'change of name applications'
- how a 'change of name application' is considered and why it may be refused.

## 3.0 Scope

This policy does not address the change of name requirements for children. These are addressed in the ***Child change of name policy***.

This policy does not address how RBDM decides if a name is a prohibited name. This is addressed in the [Prohibited name policy](#).

## 4.0 Applying for an official change of name in Queensland

### 4.1 Types of applications

There are 4 types of applications that can be used to apply to RBDM to officially change an adult's legal name in Queensland:

1.	Change of name application.
2.	Application to note a change of name (if name was changed in another state or by another legal process).
3.	Acknowledgement of sex application (first name only).
4.	Recognised details certificate application (first name only).

This policy primarily covers the requirements for a standard 'change of name application' and provides some additional guidance for the 'application to note a change of name'.

If you are trying to understand the requirements for making one of the other application types, you should first read the information on [RBDM's website](#) for that type of application, and the instructions on the application form. If you still need help, you can contact RBDM directly.

### 4.2 Application process

An application for a name change for an adult will be reviewed if it meets 3 requirements – the application must:

- be made using the approved **application form**
- include payment of the **application fee**
- include all necessary **supporting documents**, including identification.

## Application form

The application form is available on RBDM's website or in hardcopy from the RBDM office.

## Application Fee

Application fees are [listed online](#), as well as in Schedule 2 of the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Regulation 2024* (BDMR Regulation).

A 'change of name application' includes a free certificate (either a Change of Name Certificate or updated birth certificate).

## Summary of Supporting documentation needed

A summary of the supporting evidence that must be provided with a 'change of name application' is provided in [Attachment 1](#).

## 4.3 Outcome of Change of Name Application

If your 'change of name application' is successful, RBDM will register the new name you have requested.

## Certificate to prove change of name

RBDM issues certificates that can be used to both:

- prove you have legally changed your name
- update your other identification documents.

### Persons born in Queensland

If you were born or adopted in Queensland, your change of name will be shown on your birth certificate and can also be shown with a Change of Name Certificate.

There are 2 ways a name change can be shown on a birth certificate:

<b>Option 1</b> Display your new name on your birth certificate	<b>Front</b> of the certificate shows your new name <b>Back</b> of the certificate includes a note stating your previous name, and the date of the name change <i>You can use your birth certificate to update your name in the community</i>
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**Option 2**

Keep your new name private on your birth certificate

**Front** of the certificate shows your previous name

**Back** of the certificate includes a note that you changed your name, and the date of the change, but does not state your new name

*You will need a Change of Name Certificate to update your name in the community – your birth certificate alone will not be enough evidence*

You must select one of these options when completing the 'change of name application' form. Please note that a Change of Name Certificate cannot be used to prove details about your birth.

### Persons born overseas

If you were born overseas, you can get a Change of Name Certificate that will show your name at birth, your new name, and any previous registered names in Queensland. If you have had more than four registered name changes, these will appear on the back of the certificate.

A Change of Name Certificate cannot display previous name changes if those changes were not officially registered with RBDM.

## Updating your name in the community

After legally changing your name, you are expected to take 2 actions:

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 1. | Return or destroy your old Queensland birth certificate(s).                             |
| 2. | Update other identification documents, such as your driver licence, with your new name. |

To update your other identification documents, you need to get in touch with the organisations that issued them. They will require you to submit your updated birth certificate or a Change of Name Certificate, along with any other documents or information they may request from you.

## Re-registration

After changing your name, you may apply to re-register your birth or adoption if you were born or adopted in Queensland. After re-registration, your birth certificate will only show your new name, and will not show any previous names. You may have trouble using the re-registered birth certificate as identification with any organisations that have your old details.

In most cases, there is no need for re-registration. Re-registration also involves an additional fee that needs to be paid.

## 5.0 Making a Change of Name Application

### 5.1 Who can apply

An adult, 18 years or older, must apply themselves to change their own name.

A person under 18 who has been married may also apply themselves, but must provide a copy of their marriage certificate.

### 5.2 What the Registrar will consider

The Registrar is responsible for registering a name change after receiving an application from an eligible person.

The Registrar will only register the name change if all the following conditions are met:

1.	The application is complete and includes all necessary <a href="#">supporting documents</a> .
2.	The Registrar believes the information provided is accurate.
3.	The applicant meets the <a href="#">eligibility requirements</a> and <a href="#">residency requirements</a> if born overseas (unless <a href="#">an exception</a> has been granted).
4.	The Registrar is satisfied of the <a href="#">identity of the applicant</a> .
5.	The applicant has <u>not</u> exceeded <a href="#">limits on multiple name changes</a> (unless <a href="#">an exception</a> has been granted).
6.	The Registrar does not suspect the name change is being done for <a href="#">fraudulent or improper reasons</a> .
7.	The requested name is <a href="#">not prohibited</a> (also see the <a href="#">prohibited name policy</a> ).
8.	The applicant has authorisation to apply ( <a href="#">for persons in prison and certain types of released prisoners</a> ).

The Registrar may ask for additional evidence or information to support the application.

RBDM will work with you to ensure your application meets all the legal and policy requirements.

RBDM may also communicate with you to better understand your reasons for the name change, especially if the name holds significance for you, your family, religion, or culture.

### 5.3 Eligibility requirements

You are eligible to apply to register a change of name in Queensland if either:



1.	You were born or adopted in Queensland.
<b>OR</b>	
2.	<p>You meet <u>all 3</u> of the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• you were born <u>outside</u> Australia</li> <li>• your birth was <u>not</u> registered in another state or territory</li> <li>• you have lived in Queensland for at least 12 consecutive months (12 months in a row) immediately prior to the 'change of name application'.</li> </ul>

If your birth or adoption was registered in another state or territory in Australia, you must apply to change your name in that state or territory.

## 5.4 Residency requirements for applicants born overseas

*Skip this section if you were born in Queensland.*

For an adult born overseas to change their name, they must have lived in Queensland for at least 12 continuous months right before applying to change their name.

To decide if you meet residency requirements, the Registrar may consider the any of following types of evidence:

1.	<b>A series of bank statements</b> in your name that show consistent transactions in Queensland, a residential address, and date of issue, covering the 12-month period.
2.	<b>Queensland tenancy agreement(s)</b> in your name, that covers the 12-month period.
3.	<b>Utility accounts</b> in your name showing a Queensland residential address, with a date of issue covering the 12-month period. For example, statements from the beginning, middle and end of the 12-month period.
4.	<b>A letter from your employer</b> confirming employment in Queensland for (at least) the 12-months period.
5.	Confirmation of <b>enrolment in a face-to-face or supervised study course</b> with a Queensland educational institution for the 12-month period.

These are just examples. Other documents may be accepted if they come from a reliable source and show you have lived in Queensland for 12 continuous months right before applying for a name change.

## 5.5 Establishing applicant identity

All applicants must provide their identity documents to allow the Registrar to verify their identity. If submitting your application via post, your identity documents must be certified. However, your identity documents do not need to be certified if you are submitting them in person at RBDM's customer service centre—you must have the originals with you.

Examples of the types of identity documents RBDM can accept are listed in [Attachment 2](#).

These documents include essential information such as your name, age and current residential address. It is important that the address listed on your identity documents is your current address and not a former address or the address of someone collecting mail for you.

If the documents provided do not include photographic ID, RBDM staff may ask you to provide an official identity document with your photo. Persons born outside Australia, who do not yet have Australian photo ID, may provide a government-issued photo travel document. Examples of photo travel documents include:

- overseas Passport
- permanent Residency Visa
- ImmiCard
- Convention Travel Document (known as a Titre De Voyage)

RBDM staff may also ask for additional evidence if they have doubts about your identity or if they are not convinced that the address given in the application is current and where you actually live.

RBDM is aware of sensitive situations where an applicant's residential address may be a concern, such as cases involving domestic violence or if the applicant does not have a fixed home address. These circumstances will not prevent the approval of a 'change of name application'.

## 5.6 Limits on multiple name changes

There are strict limits on the number of times you can change your name, and how often, you:

- may change your name **once every 12 months**, from when your last name change was officially registered
- are allowed a **maximum of 3 name changes** in your adult life.

These limits apply regardless of whether the name change occurred in Queensland, or in a different Australian state or territory.

The lifetime limit of 3 name changes does not include name changes:

- before you turned 18

- before the BDMR Act commenced in 2024
- that were not officially registered in Australia – for example, if you updated your last name on your ID after getting married without registering the change with a registry

In certain circumstances, the Registrar has the power to approve an additional name change that falls outside these limits. These are known as [exceptions to limits on multiple name changes](#).

## 5.7 Name changes for fraudulent or improper reasons

The BMDR Act does not allow name changes that are sought for fraudulent or improper reasons.

To assess whether you are motivated by fraudulent or improper reasons, the Registrar will carefully review your application, considering your circumstances and various relevant factors, including:

1.	The name you have chosen.
2.	The reason for the name change.
3.	The extent of the change (how different the new name is from your current name).
4.	Your history of previous name changes, including the frequency and circumstances.
5.	The quality of identity documents provided.
6.	Any history of fraud or criminal activity.

The Registrar may request additional information and supporting evidence from you (such as a 'national police certificate' verifying criminal history), and also has the authority to seek information directly from other sources.

If you choose not to provide additional information to RBDM, you have the option to withdraw your application, but you will not be refunded the application fee – see [RBDM's Refund Policy](#).

Following the principles of natural justice, if any adverse information is received from law enforcement or other sources, it will be disclosed to you (unless there is a lawful reason not to do so). You will then be given an opportunity to respond to the information before a decision is made regarding the approval or refusal of the 'change of name application'.

## 5.8 Prohibited names

The Registrar will not approve an application to register a change of name to a prohibited name, meaning any name that meets any of the following criteria:

1.	The name is obscene or offensive.
2.	The name cannot be practically established through reputation or common usage. This could be for reasons such as the name being excessively long or containing symbols that do not have any phonetic significance.
3.	The name resembles an official title or rank.
4.	The name includes a statement. <i>Table continues next page</i>
5.	Any history of fraud or criminal activity.
6.	The name includes or is part of a political slogan.
7.	The name is contrary to the public interest for any other reason.

The [prohibited name policy](#) sets out further information on assessing whether a name is prohibited.

If the Registrar considers your chosen name is prohibited, you will be given an opportunity to choose another name.

## 5.9 Permission needed for persons in prison and some released prisoners

3 types of persons must obtain permission before applying for a name change:

1.	Persons in the custody of Corrective Services.
2.	'Released prisoners' under the <i>Dangerous Prisoner (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003</i> .
3.	'Reportable offenders' under the <i>Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004</i> .

Under the *Corrective Services Act 2006*, persons in the custody of the Corrective Services must obtain written permission from Corrective Services' Chief Executive before applying for a name change.

Released prisoners under the *Dangerous Prisoner (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003* must also seek permission from Corrective Services' Chief Executive before applying to change their name.

Finally, reportable offenders under the *Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004* must obtain written permission from the Police Commissioner before applying to change their name.

If any of these circumstances apply, you must get permission from the Chief Executive Corrective Services or the Police Commissioner before applying to change your name. If you are given permission to change your name, you will receive a written authorisation that you must include with your application.

It is an offence to make a 'change of name application' without permission, which attracts a maximum penalty of 20 penalty units or 6 months imprisonment.

### 5.10 Exceptions to eligibility and residency requirements

In certain cases, you can ask the Registrar to accept your application even if it doesn't meet the usual eligibility or residency requirements. However, the types of exceptions that the Registrar can consider are very specific, and some exceptions can only be made in rare situations.

To seek an exception, you must complete 3 steps:

1.	Indicate that you are seeking an exception on your 'change of name application' form.
2.	Fill out an additional application form called a 'Request exception to rules form', explaining your specific circumstances.
3.	Submit additional evidence that supports your circumstances.

The eligibility requirements exist to ensure the name change process is secure throughout Australia. It's important to note that if your request for an exception is denied, the 'change of name application' fee you paid will not be refunded – see [RBDM's Refund Policy](#).

Below are the types of exceptions that may apply if your application doesn't meet eligibility requirements.

[Attachment 3](#) lists each name change restriction and the situations where exceptions may be considered.

## Exceptional circumstances

If an adult does not meet eligibility requirements, the Registrar has the power to approve the 'change of name application' if there are exceptional circumstances.

To convince the Registrar that exceptional circumstances exist, you must explain your circumstances and provide supporting documents.

If you have not lived in Queensland for 12 continuous months, you must explain why your 'change of name application' is urgent and cannot wait until you meet that requirement.

Similarly, if you were born in another state or territory in Australia, you must explain why you cannot apply for a name change in that state or territory.

Ultimately, the Registrar has the final authority to approve or reject a 'change of name application' based on exceptional circumstances.

## Marriage or divorce

If an adult who was born overseas is ineligible for a name change because they do not meet the Queensland residency requirements, the Registrar may still accept the application if the requested name change is due to the marriage or divorce of the applicant.

If you wish to seek this exception, you must provide both:

- a copy of the marriage certificate or divorce order
- an explanation of how the name change is connected to the marriage or divorce, and why waiting until the 12-month residency requirements are met is not possible.

## Safety and Protection

If an adult who was born overseas is ineligible for a name change because they do not meet the Queensland residency requirements, the Registrar may still accept the application if it is made for the safety or protection of the applicant, their child, or someone they know.

You will need to explain your situation and give supporting evidence. Examples are provided in the below table:

Situation	Supporting documentation
A name change is needed to protect the applicant, child, or someone else from domestic and family violence	A letter from the police, or domestic violence service, or counsellor helping you with the domestic and family violence, explaining the need for the name change
A name change is needed to protect the applicant, child, or	A letter from an organisation helping you, explaining the danger you are experiencing and why the name change is needed

Situation	Supporting documentation
someone else from persecution or violence from their country of origin	

These are just examples. You should provide supporting documents relevant to your circumstances when seeking an exception to any name change requirements.

## 5.11 Exceptions to limits on multiple name changes

Even though there are limits on how many times and how frequently an adult's name can be changed, there are certain exceptions where a name change can be registered despite those limits.

To seek an exception, you must complete 3 steps:

1.	Indicate you are seeking an exception on your 'change of name application' form.
2.	Fill out an additional application form called a 'Request exception to rules form', explaining your specific circumstances.
3.	Submit additional evidence that supports your circumstances. <i>Table continues next page</i>

[Attachment 3](#) is a table listing each name change restriction and the situations where exceptions may be considered.

## Sex/Gender affirmation

A person may apply for an exception to the name change limits if the new name is an affirmation of their gender identity or sex.

This exception is considered automatically if the person applies to change their first name through an 'acknowledgement of sex' or 'recognised details certificate' application.

If you seek this exception in an application other than an 'acknowledgement of sex' or 'recognised details certificate' application, you must provide both:

1.	Evidence that you <u>recently</u> changed your sex in Queensland or another Australian state or territory.
2.	An explanation of how the name change is an affirmation of your gender identity or sex.

Please note that if you have already changed your first name as part of your application to alter your sex, you cannot rely on this exception to change your first name again (that is, you cannot pick an another new first name).

## Safety and Protection

A person may apply for an exception to the name change limits if their further name change is required for their safety and protection, or the protection of someone else.

You will need to explain your situation and give supporting evidence. Examples are provided in the below table:

Situation	Supporting documentation
A name change is needed to protect the applicant, child, or someone else from domestic and family violence	A letter from the police, or domestic violence service, or counsellor helping you with the domestic and family violence, explaining the need for the name change
A name change is needed to protect the applicant, child, or someone else from persecution or violence from their country of origin	A letter from an organisation explaining the danger you are experiencing and why the name change is needed

These are just examples. You should provide supporting documents relevant to your circumstances when seeking an exception to any name change requirements.

## Marriage or Divorce

A person may apply for an exception to the name change limits if their further name change is required in connection with their marriage or divorce.

If you wish to seek this exception, you must provide both:

1.	The marriage certificate or divorce order.
2.	An explanation of why the name change is required because of the marriage or divorce.

Please note that RBDM will not ordinarily accept that a change to a person's first name is needed because of marriage or divorce.

## Exceptional Circumstances

A person may apply for an exception to the name change limits if their further name change is required because of exceptional circumstances.

Each request for consideration of exceptional circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. This exception will be granted *very rarely*, as the person's unique situation must justify allowing the name change despite the legal restriction.



If you are seeking to change your name again within 12 months of a previous name change, you must explain why you are unable to wait until 12 months have passed.

If you are seeking an additional name change over the name change limits, you must explain what serious consequences you will face if you are unable to change your name again.

## 6.0 Application to note a change of name on your birth certificate

If you were born or adopted in Queensland and have already legally changed your name in another state or territory, or through a legal process (such as a court order), you can apply to RBDM to have a note added to your birth registration indicating the name change.

This note will be displayed on your birth certificate, which can then be used to prove you changed your name.

### 6.1 Who can apply?

An adult, 18 years or older, must apply themselves to note a change to their own name.

### 6.2 Application requirements

An 'application to note a change of name' will be reviewed if it meets 3 requirements – the application must:

- be made using the approved **application form**
- include payment of the **application fee**
- include all necessary **supporting documents**, including identification.

### Supporting documentation

To support your 'application to note a change of name', you must provide all the following supporting documents:

1.	<a href="#">Proof of identity documents</a>
2.	Proof of the name change in another state or territory, or through another legal process.

Examples of documents showing that you changed your name in another state or territory or through another legal process include a:

- **Change of Name Certificate** from a Registry in another state or territory

- copy of a **deed poll** registered in Queensland (prior to 2004) or another state or territory
- **court order** changing your name.

## When will an application to note a name change be refused?

RBDM will refuse to note a change of name if the Registrar:

1.	Is not convinced of the applicant's identity.
<b>OR</b>	
2.	Reasonably suspects that the name change is sought for fraudulent or improper reasons.
<b>OR</b>	
3.	Considers the name is prohibited. <span style="float: right;"><i>Table continues next page</i></span>

## 7.0 Reviewing the decision of the Registrar

If you are not happy with a decision made by the Registrar, you have the right to seek a review of the decision. You can do so by applying to the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) in accordance with the procedures outlined in the *Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2009*.

## 8.0 Compatibility with human rights

RBDM is committed to upholding, safeguarding, and advancing human rights. Under the *Human Rights Act 2019*, RBDM is required to act and make decisions in a manner that aligns with human rights. When evaluating applications for a change of name, decision-makers must give careful consideration to human rights and ensure compliance with this obligation.

## 9.0 Commencement and version

Commencement date: 24 June 2024

Version: 1.0

Approved: Registrar-General

## Attachment 1: Summary of supporting evidence needed

Adult change of name	
1	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Certified copies of ID documents for the applicant.</b></p> <p>See <a href="#">attachment two</a> for details of proof of identity requirements</p>
2	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Documents showing previous name changes.</b></p> <p>Only needed if applicant's current name not the same as the name on their birth certificate.</p> <p><i>Examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change of Name Certificate(s)</li> <li>• Marriage Certificate(s)</li> <li>• Deed polls</li> <li>• A birth certificate noting name changes</li> <li>• Citizenship certificate or Entry into Australia documents (if name is different from birth certificate)</li> </ul>
3	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Applicant's birth certificate.</b></p> <p>Only needed if the applicant was born outside Australia.</p> <p><i>If it is not possible for the applicant to provide their birth certificate, they must provide <u>both</u>:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Another official document displaying their name at birth, date of birth, and place of birth</li> <li>• An explanation of why it is impossible or impractical to provide the birth certificate.</li> </ul>
4	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Proof of residency in Queensland.</b></p> <p>Only needed if the applicant was born outside Australia.</p> <p>See the section '<a href="#">residency requirements for applicants born overseas</a>' for examples of documents that may show Queensland residency for a 12-month period.</p>
5	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Applicant's Marriage Certificate.</b></p> <p>Only required if the applicant is under the age of 18 years but is applying as an adult.</p>
6	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>'Request exception to rules form' and supporting evidence.</b></p> <p>Only required if the applicant is seeking an exception to an eligibility requirement or name change limit.</p> <p><i>The evidence required will depend on the type of restriction that applies, and the type of exception you are seeking. Refer to the <a href="#">eligibility exceptions</a> and <a href="#">name change limit exceptions</a> sections of this policy for guidance.</i></p>

## Attachment 2: Proof of identity

Each applicant must provide certified copies of either:

- **One** Personal ID, **One** Community ID, and **One** Home Address evidence
- **Two** Community ID, and **One** Home Address evidence.

All forms of ID must be either:

- **Current** – document has an expiry date, is valid, and not past the expiry date; **OR**
- **Recent** – document does not have an expiry date and was issued no more than 6 months before being submitted to us.

If you currently live overseas, you may use the local equivalent for the ID items listed. For documents not in English, you must also provide a translation from a translator accredited by the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI).

This list is not exhaustive. Please contact RBDM to discuss other types of ID that may be accepted

### Types of ID (Categories)

<b>Personal ID</b> <i>Documents showing who you are</i>	<b>Community ID</b> <i>Documents showing you are active in the community</i>	<b>Home Address evidence</b> <i>Documents showing where you live</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian photo driver licence, front and back</li> <li>• Australian passport</li> <li>• Overseas passport</li> <li>• Adult Proof of Age card (formerly 18+ card) issued by the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medicare card (the digital Medicare card is not approved as proof of ID)</li> <li>• Concession or Healthcare card</li> <li>• Student ID</li> <li>• School or other educational report from the last 12 months</li> <li>• Salary advice or payslip</li> <li>• Private Health Provider ID card</li> <li>• Defence Force or Police Service photo ID card</li> <li>• Australian Firearms licence</li> <li>• Document of identity issued by the Passport Office</li> <li>• Naturalisation, citizenship, or immigration certificate</li> <li>• Birth certificate (does not expire)</li> <li>• Security guard/crowd control licence</li> <li>• Government employee photo ID</li> <li>• Blue card</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utility account (gas, electricity, home phone, etc)</li> <li>• Rent or lease agreement</li> <li>• Rates notice</li> <li>• Vehicle registration or driver licence renewal notice from the last 12 months</li> <li>• Official correspondence from Government service providers (not from RBDM)</li> <li>• Electoral enrolment document</li> <li>• Insurance policy notice from the last 12 months</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Please provide only the page that displays the person's name and current home address.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>If the home address evidence provided is older than 6 months, we may still accept it.</i></b></p>

## Attachment 3: Name change restrictions and exceptions

<b>Situation</b> <i>I want to:</i>	<b>Available options</b> <i>Consider your options first</i>	<b>Possible exceptions</b> <i>If the available options don't work in your situation</i>
Change my name in Queensland, but <b>I was born in another Australian state or territory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply for a name change at the Registry in the state where you were born</li> <li>Apply for an exception</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The name change cannot be completed in the state or territory of birth because of <b>exceptional circumstances</b></li> </ul>
Change my name in Queensland, but <b>I was born overseas and have not yet lived in Queensland for 12 continuous months</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wait until you have lived in Queensland for 12 continuous months</li> <li>If you currently live in another Australian state or territory, contact the Registry in that state</li> <li>Apply for an exception</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I need to change my name <u>urgently</u> because of my recent <b>marriage or divorce</b></li> <li>I need to change my name <u>urgently</u> for my own <b>safety and protection</b> or to protect someone I know</li> <li>I need to change my name <u>urgently</u> because of other <b>exceptional circumstances</b></li> </ul>
Change my name again <b>within 12 months of a previous name change</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you intend on applying to alter your sex, you can also change your first name as part of that application</li> <li>Wait until 12 months have passed since your most recent name change was registered</li> <li>Apply for an exception</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I recently altered my sex and wish to change my name as an <b>affirmation of my identified sex</b> <i>Please note that if you have already changed your first name as part of an application to alter your sex, you cannot rely on this exception to change your first name again.</i></li> <li>I need to change my name <u>urgently</u> because of my recent <b>marriage or divorce</b></li> <li>I need to change my name <u>urgently</u> for my own <b>safety and protection</b> or to protect someone I know</li> <li>I need to change my name <u>urgently</u> because of other <b>exceptional circumstances</b></li> </ul>
Change my name again after <b>3 or more prior name changes in my adult life</b>  <i>Please note the following types of name changes do not count towards the three-change limit:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Names changes while you were under 18 years old</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start using a new name informally and ask people to address you by that name. <i>Please note that while informally adopting a new name is legal in Queensland, you cannot update your official identification documents with a name that you have informally adopted.</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I have altered my sex and wish to change my name again as an <b>affirmation of my identified sex</b></li> <li>I need to change my name again because of my recent <b>marriage or divorce</b></li> <li>I need to change my name again for my own <b>safety and protection</b> or to protect someone I know</li> <li>I need to change my name again because of other <b>exceptional circumstances</b></li> </ul>

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<b>Situation</b> <i>I want to:</i>	<b>Available options</b> <i>Consider your options first</i>	<b>Possible exceptions</b> <i>If the available options don't work in your situation</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Name changes before the BDMR Act commenced in 2024</i></li> <li>• <i>Name changes that were not officially registered in Australia</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Apply for an exception</i></li> </ul>	