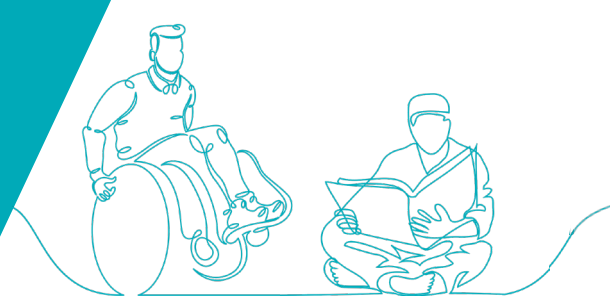


# Change a record of sex

Information for young people



This fact sheet is for **young people under 18 years**. It will help you find out what you need to know about changing your record of sex.

## Help

If you need help:



A Births, Deaths and Marriages (BDM) team member can explain the process of changing a record of sex to you. You can talk to us by phoning **132 842**.



BDM's Marguk-bulok koolin-ik Team (Aboriginal Outreach) is available to support Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people to access BDM services. You can email them at **[bdm.koori@justice.vic.gov.au](mailto:bdm.koori@justice.vic.gov.au)**



Your parent(s) or legal guardian(s) can read more about changing a record of sex at **[bdm.vic.gov.au](http://bdm.vic.gov.au)**

## What does it mean to change a record of sex?

### If you were born in Victoria, Australia

With your agreement, your parent(s) or legal guardian(s) may apply to change your record of sex.

This means they ask BDM to change the sex descriptor on your birth certificate.

A 'sex descriptor' is the word(s) you use to describe the sex you identify as.

For example, your birth certificate might show 'male', but you identify as 'female'.

### If you were born outside Victoria, Australia

With your agreement, your parent(s) or legal guardian(s) may apply to change your record of sex.

This means they can apply for a certificate that will show the sex you identify as.

This certificate is called a recognised details certificate.

## What is the process?

You don't need to have surgery to have your record of sex changed.

BDM accepts most sex descriptors, but there are some [the law doesn't allow](#).



### Apply

Your parent(s) or legal guardian(s) need to apply to BDM, asking to change your record of sex.

They can apply:

- Online at [bdm.vic.gov.au](http://bdm.vic.gov.au)
- Using a paper form and mailing it to BDM
- In person at a Justice Service Centre. You can find a Justice Service Centre near you at [justice.vic.gov.au](http://justice.vic.gov.au)

If they need a paper form, they can call 132 842.

They will need to give us some documents and pay for the application.

If they're experiencing hardship, they can ask us not to charge the fee for certain certificates or registrations. This is called a [fee waiver](#).



### Agree

**If you are 12 years of age or older** and agree to change your record of sex, you need to tell us you **agree** to it.

To show that you agree, you'll need to sign a consent form (available at [bdm.vic.gov.au](http://bdm.vic.gov.au)). The consent form lets BDM know you agree to the sex descriptor listed in the application.

**If you are under 12 years old**, you can complete the consent form if you want.



### Review

BDM will look at the information sent in with your application.

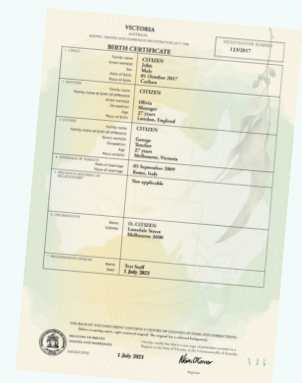
This may take some time.

We will contact your parent(s) or legal guardian(s) if we have any questions or need more information.

If we approve the application, we will send your parent(s) or guardian(s) a **certificate**.

If you were **born in Victoria**, you'll get a new birth certificate. It will show the sex descriptor you have chosen.

If you were **born outside Victoria**, you'll get a recognised details certificate. It will show the sex descriptor you have chosen.





### Delivery times

This process takes time.

We'll post your certificate to the address you put in your application.

Check our current processing times for correcting a certificate at [bdm.vic.gov.au](https://bdm.vic.gov.au) if you want to know more.



You or your parent(s) or legal guardian(s) may want to update your identity documents and records to show the sex on your new birth certificate or recognised details certificate.

These documents may include:

- Passport
- Learner permit
- School identity card.

To do this, you or your parent(s) or legal guardian(s) can show your certificate.

For example, show your certificate to your school so they can update their records.