

CHANGE OF NAME AND/OR SURNAME

General Information

Updated n. 04/07/2022

GENERAL INFORMATION

Unlike what happens in Australia, where changing name or surname can be obtained by means of a simple administrative procedure, in Italy provisions allowing for name or surname changes/modifications constitute an exception and are granted only in the presence of objectively relevant circumstances, **supported by adequate documentation and based on valid and justified grounds**, as pointed out by the Presidential Decree of 3 November 2000, No. 396.

Specifically, the Decree 396/2000 provides for:

- Changing own name or surname because it is ridiculous or shameful or because it reveals own natural origin (art. 89);
- Changing name or adding another name to own (art. 89);
- Changing surname or adding another surname to own (art. 84);

COMPETENCE

The legislation, as amended by the Presidential Decree of 13 March 2012, No. 54, rules that the competent authority for this matter is the Prefect (either the one relevant for the place of residence or for the Municipality where the birth was registered). For Italian citizens residing abroad and registered with AIRE the relevant Prefect is the one who has jurisdiction over the AIRE Municipality of reference.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. The application for change of name/surname must be lodged in person. A copy of an Italian ID document must be enclosed. The application is subject to stamp duty. In the circumstance the change of name/surname is sought on the grounds that it is ridiculous or shameful or because it reveals own natural origin, the application will be exempt from payment of stamp duty;
2. All documents that is considered relevant to justify the application should be attached. As an example: foreign certificates attesting the new name/surname with Apostille and translation, Italian or foreign identification documents, declarations etc. including copies of Police Checks with Apostille and translation, should be attached to the application;
3. The Prefect will proceed with the assessment and, if the prescribed requirements are met, they will issue a decree authorizing the posting on the Consulate General notice board of a summary of the application;
4. During the posting period (thirty days) and for the following thirty days, any disagreeing party may raise an objection to the aforesaid Prefect;
5. Once these periods have elapsed, the Prefect will issue the final decree that, if favourable (subject to payment of the stamp duty) may then be recorded, at the applicant's care, in the Registry Office where his/her birth is registered.

NOTE: Under no circumstances applications for the change of surname into one of historical importance or where mistakenly it could create the impression of the belonging to illustrious families, or to families particularly famous in the area where the applicant resides or where the birth certificate is registered, may be submitted.

PROCEDURE

1. Visit the Consular office (appointment required) in person to lodge the application;
2. Enclose copy of an Italian identity document;
3. Enclose any supporting document that the applicant thinks appropriate, including Police checks with Apostille & translation;
4. Payment of the stamp duty, subsequently two further stamp duty payments will be required with the progress of the application;
5. You will be contacted by the Consulate once the Prefect has reached a decision on the application.

Application of change of NAME
inclusive of self-certification

STAMP
DUTY

(art. 46 del D.P.R. 28 dicembre 2000 n. 445)

To the Prefettura of _____

I, the undersigned _____ born in _____

Date of birth _____ requests the change of NAME in _____

for the following reasons:

Aware of the criminal liability in the case of untruthful declarations, referred to in art. 76 of the D.P.R. December 28th 2000 n. 445,

declares

- to be resident in _____
- phone n. _____
- to be an Italian Citizen
- that my family members are:

surname and name	place and date of birth	relationship

The undersigned, pursuant to Art. 10 of the Law December 31st 1996 n. 675, agrees that his/her data may be processed, also electronically, within the scope of the procedure and be communicated to third parties for the purpose of providing the fulfilment of legal obligations.

Adelaide,

(signature)

The request must be signed by the interested party in the presence of the Consular officer or presented together with copy of an ID document with photo.

Application of change of NAME
inclusive of self-certification

**STAMP
DUTY**

(art. 46 del D.P.R. 28 dicembre 2000 n. 445)

To the Prefettura of _____

I, the undersigned _____ born in _____

Date of birth _____ requests the change of SURNAME in _____

for the following reasons:

Aware of the criminal liability in the case of untruthful declarations, referred to in art. 76 of the D.P.R. December 28th 2000 n. 445,

declares

- to be resident in _____
- phone n. _____
- to be an Italian Citizen
- that my family members are:

surname and name	place and date of birth	relationship

The undersigned, pursuant to Art. 10 of the Law December 31st 1996 n. 675, agrees that his/her data may be processed, also electronically, within the scope of the procedure and be communicated to third parties for the purpose of providing the fulfilment of legal obligations.

Adelaide,

(signature)

The request must be signed by the interested party in the presence of the Consular officer or presented together with a copy of an ID document with photo.

The undersigned, pursuant to Art. 10 of the Law December 31st 1996 n. 675, agrees that his/her data may be processed, also electronically, within the scope of the procedure and be communicated to third parties for the purpose of providing the fulfilment of legal obligations.

Adelaide,

(signature)

The request must be signed by the interested party in the presence of the officer or presented together with an unauthenticated copy of an ID document with photo.