

Name Change of Minor Child Information

To obtain a name change for a minor, both parents of the minor must consent to the change. The consent form is contained within the Petition to Change Name of Minor or there must be a Court finding that the name change is in the best interests of the minor. If consent cannot be obtained from both parents a hearing will be set so that the matter can be heard and both parents will be notified of the hearing. The petitioner must give the name and current address of both the biological parents. If the name or address of the non-custodial parent is not available, the petition may be delayed since the petitioner must then demonstrate that they have exercised due diligence in trying to locate that parent. Also, under 15 V.S.A. §812, if the minor is over fourteen years of age, their consent must be solicited before the Court will proceed with the name change.

Instructions to Change Name of Minor:

Please download a copy of the **Petition to Change Name of Minor** from the Minor Child Name Change forms. This petition is also available at the Probate Court.

The petition must be completed and returned to the court with a **Copy of Birth Certificate**. At the time of filing there will be a filing fee due. If a hearing is required, you will receive a notice.