### KANSAS GENDER MARKER CHANGE PROCESS

- 1. Complete, signed, and notarized <u>affidavit</u> (attached to this document) requesting a change in gender marker on a birth certificate.
- 2. One of the following as evidence of gender change:
  - a. Passport with the updated gender marker; **OR**
  - b. Driver's license with the updated gender marker (valid stateissued ID from Kansas Driver's License Bureau also accepted); **OR**
  - c. Certification issued by a healthcare professional or mental health professional with whom the person has a doctor-patient relationship stating that based on his or her professional opinion the true gender identity of the applicant and that it is expected that this will continue to be the gender with which the applicant will identify in the future.
- 3. A signed <u>Application</u> (attached to this document) to Amend a Kansas Birth Certificate.
- 4. A copy of the front and back of the applicant's legal photo ID.
- 5. A check or money order (NOT CASH) payable to Kansas Vital Statistics (\$15 for the change; \$15 for each certified copy).
- 6. A self-addressed stamped envelope.
- 7. Applications can be submitted in person or by mail to:

Kansas Office of Vital Statistics 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 120 Topeka, KS 66612-2221

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS KANSAS GENDER MARKER CHANGE

# Who should I contact if I have questions about the gender marker change process?

Birth Certificate Amendment Unit Supervisor, Kansas Office of Vital Statistics, 785-296-1438.

#### What steps should I take after changing my birth certificate gender marker?

If you have a passport and/or driver's license, and your gender marker on these documents does not currently align with your gender identity, you can have your gender marker changed on these documents.

The National Center for Transgender Equality has a comprehensive guide for changing your gender marker on a U.S. passport: <a href="https://transequality.org/know-your-rights/passports">https://transequality.org/know-your-rights/passports</a>.

The Kansas Department of Motor Vehicles has a comprehensive guide for changing your gender marker on a driver's license and other state-issued IDs. You can find this information attached at the end of this document, or at this link: http://transascity.org/files/Kansas Gender Reclass Memo 051011.pdf.

The NCTE has a step-by-step guide on the Kansas ID gender marker change process as well: <a href="https://transequality.org/documents/state/kansas">https://transequality.org/documents/state/kansas</a>.

### What should I do if I was not born in Kansas, and my birth certificate is in another state?

If your birth certificate is not issued by Kansas, you should research your state's gender marker change requirements and follow the procedure outlined by their laws.

The National Center for Transgender Equality has a comprehensive guide to the gender marker change procedure in each state: https://transequality.org/documents.

# On the Application to Amend a Kansas Birth Certificate, what should I write under "Reason for Request?"

"Personal reasons" is a sufficient explanation for reason for gender marker change. This document will not become a public record.

# If I am only applying to amend my gender marker, do I need to fill out the entire "Birth Information on Legal Certificate" section of the Application?

Yes. This information is required to locate your birth certificate.

# If I am a minor requesting a name change, does my legal guardian have to approve and sign off on my gender marker change?

Yes. The legal guardian should sign the application on behalf of the minor requesting a name change and provide a copy of their state-issues ID. The minor requesting a name change should sign the affidavit.

#### Where I can find a notary public to notarize my affidavit?

- You can go to UPS and have your affidavit notarized by one of their notary publics, at a small cost.
- Many banks employ notary publics at no or small cost to their customers.
- If you are a college student, your university may have a legal services student who is a notary public.

### Will my birth certificate now read "Amended Birth Certificate?"

Yes, your birth certificate will say "Amended Birth Certificate" in the upper left-hand corner. This is typical for any amendment of a birth certificate. This amendment notification will look the same for both name changes and gender marker changes.

### Will my birth certificate become a public record once it is amended?

No. The Office of Vital Statistics is not an Open Records office, and your birth certificate and amendment are not public records.

#### What gender markers are available on Kansas birth certificates?

Only "female" and "male" gender markers are available on Kansas birth certificates. Kansas currently does not recognize a third gender marker, like "x," on birth certificates.

#### Does my application have to be mailed, or can I submit it in person?

You can submit your application in person or by mail. You should visit the Office of Vital Statistics at 1000 SW Jackson, Topeka, KS Suite 120. You should ask for the amendment division, where you will submit your application materials.

### Where can I look for more information about gender marker changes in Kansas?

The National Center for Transgender Equality has a comprehensive guide to gender marker and name changes in every state. Here's the website for Kansas: <a href="https://transequality.org/documents/state/kansas.">https://transequality.org/documents/state/kansas.</a>

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment houses information for the Office of Vital Statistics. You can visit them here: <a href="http://www.kdheks.gov/vital/amendments">http://www.kdheks.gov/vital/amendments</a> and corrections.html.

### When should I expect to hear back about my birth certificate amendment?

As of Fall 2019, the Kansas Office of Vital Statistics says an amendment should take from 3-5 weeks, depending on the request volume.