LEGITIMATION

1. Under the Legitimacy Acts (Northern Ireland) 1928 to 1961, a child born before his or her parents marriage/civil partnership is legitimated by the subsequent marriage/civil partnership of the parents if the father’s domicile at the time of the marriage/civil partnership was in Northern Ireland. The child is not legitimated unless the persons who marry/form a civil partnership are the natural (that is, actual) parents of the child.

RE-REGISTRATION

2. Under the Births and Deaths Registration (Northern Ireland) Order 1976, the Register General may authorise at any time the re-registration of the birth of a legitimated child on production to him of satisfactory evidence.

If both parents of a legitimated child are living, it is the duty of both to give information to the Registrar General with a view to the re-registration of the birth of the child; and both parents should accordingly join in making and signing the application on this form.

If either parent is dead, the birth cannot be re-registered unless:

(a) The name of the father of the child was recorded in the entry of the birth already made, or
(b) The paternity of the child has been established by an affiliation order or Declaration of Parentage by a court of competent jurisdiction, or
(c) A declaration of the legitimacy of the child has been made under the Matrimonial and Family Proceedings (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 or any corresponding enactment in force at the date of the declaration in any part of Great Britain.

If one parent is still living, and any one of these conditions is satisfied, that parent has a duty to give information to the Registrar General with a view to the re-registration of the birth.

If neither parent is living, and one of the conditions at (a), (b) or (c) is satisfied, it is advisable that information with a view to re-registration should be furnished to the Registrar General by or on behalf of the person interested.

A re-registration may be carried out at any Registrar’s Office in Northern Ireland. Where the parents are not now living in Northern Ireland, the re-registration may be effected by means of a declaration before certain persons authorised to administer oaths.

Further advise can be obtained from the General Register Office.
Telephone: 0300 200 7890 (within the UK) or +44 300 200 7890 (outside UK)
E-mail: gro_nisra@finance-ni.gov.uk
3. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH MAY HELP YOU COMPLETE THE QUESTIONS ON PAGES 3 & 4

(a) Careful attention should be given to show the correct spelling of the name(s) and surname of the child. If the child has died, it is possible to register the birth again provided that the child was living at the time of the parent’s marriage/civil partnership.

(b) Full details of your occupation should be shown e.g.
   If civil servant, please also state Department and grade.
   If factory worker or machine operator, please also state type of product firm produces.
   If labourer, please state whether general, farm, builder’s etc.

(c) The country of father’s domicile at the date of his marriage/civil partnership to the child’s mother is not necessarily the country in which the child’s father is residing at the time of his marriage/civil partnership.
   Generally speaking the country of domicile of a person is the country in which he has taken up residence with the settled intention of making it his permanent home.

   If the father’s domicile at the time of the marriage/civil partnership was not in Northern Ireland, the question of whether or not the marriage/civil partnership legitimated the child depends upon the law of the country in which he was then domiciled.

   Where the laws in different parts of the country vary, the part of the country in which he was domiciled should be stated. EXAMPLES – if domiciled in: Ireland, state whether NORTHERN IRELAND or REPUBLIC OF IRELAND; Great Britain, state whether ENGLAND, WALES or SCOTLAND; Canada, name the particular PROVINCE; USA, name the particular STATE.

(d) Only the natural parents of the child can make application. A step-father, or adoptive father cannot sign the form.

4. In order that the application may be considered without delay, please answer all of the questions on pages 3 and 4. The form should be completed in ink, properly signed and accompanied by the documents asked for. The documents will be taken care of and returned when the application is settled, or sooner if necessary.

   Your application should be processed within 15 working days from the date on which all the relevant and correct information is received in the General Register Office.

   No fee is payable for re-registration.

   If re-registration is authorised, information will also be given about obtaining new certificates.

Please return to:

The Registrar General, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency, Colby House, Stranmillis Court, BELFAST BT9 5RR
Telephone: 0300 200 7890 within UK (+44 300 200 7890 if calling from outside the UK)
BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM PLEASE READ THE NOTES

Please send the following documents with this application:

2. Parent’s marriage/civil partnership certificate.
3. Any documents required by Part F of the form.

Please note that photocopies are not acceptable.

4. If either party was previously married/or in a civil partnership:
   (i) A certificate of Divorce Decree Absolute/or Civil Partnership Dissolution
   or
   (ii) A death certificate of former spouse/civil partner.

A. THE CHILD (See Note 3(c) on Page 2)

1. Is the child living?
2. Surname by which child is to be known
3. Full forenames
4. Full address of child’s place of birth
5. Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)

B. ACTUAL FATHER (See Note 3(c) on Page 2)

1. Surname (in Capitals)
2. Full forenames
3. Date and place of birth
4. Marital Status at time of child’s birth
5. Present address

6. Occupation – type of business
   - details of occupation or job title

   (If unemployed, last full-time occupation should be given) (See Note 3(b)B on Page 2)

C. MOTHER

1. Surname (in Capitals)
2. Full forenames
3. Date and place of birth
4. Occupation – type of business
   - details of occupation or job title

   (If unemployed, last full-time occupation should be given) (See Note 3(b)B on Page 2)

5. Maiden Name
6. Any other surname before marriage/civil partnership to actual father
7. Marital Status at time of child’s birth
8. Present address

9. Daytime telephone number (if any)
10. Email address

Please read our privacy notice to see how we use and protect your personal information at www.finance-ni.gov.uk/publications/nisra-privacy-notices

GRO 15 12/19
D. MARRIAGE/CIVIL PARTNERSHIP OF CHILD’S PARENTS

1. Date of marriage/civil partnership (dd/mm/yyyy) [ ]

2. Place of marriage/civil partnership [ ]

E. WAS THE FATHER DOMICILED IN NORTHERN IRELAND AT THE DATE OF HIS MARRIAGE/CIVIL PARTNERSHIP TO CHILD’S MOTHER?

YES [ ] NO [ ]

If not, please state in which country the father was domiciled. (See Note 3c on page 2)

F. COURT ORDERS ETC.

Please tick appropriate box in relation to all of the questions below:

(i) Did the mother obtain a Court Affiliation Order for the support of the child before she married the father? [ ]

(ii) Was the paternity of the child otherwise established by a decree of a Court of competent jurisdiction? [ ]

(iii) Has a declaration of parentage or legitimacy been made by the High Court or a County Court? [ ]

(iv) Has the child been adopted by an order of any Court? [ ]

(v) Has the child been made a Ward of Court? [ ]

(vi) Has a care order been made in respect of the child? [ ]

If you have answered ‘yes’ to any of the above questions, please forward the Order, Decree or Declaration. (Please note photocopies are not acceptable).

G. REGISTRAR’S OFFICE

1. At which Registrar’s Office do you wish to re-register the birth? [ ]

2. Only one parent is required to attend the Registrar’s office to sign the new registration. Please indicate who will be attending

Mother [ ] Father [ ]

NOTE: Each District Council area is a Registration District and the Registrar’s Offices in the main are situated in the 26 District Council Offices.

H. DECLARATION

I/We, the undersigned, hereby apply for the re-registration of the birth of the child of whom particulars are given above. I/We testify that the statements made in this application are true.

I, also declare that I am the natural (that is, the actual) father of the child named above. I, also declare that I am the natural (that is, the actual) mother of the child named above.

Signature of father [ ]

Signature of mother [ ]

Date: [ ]

Date: [ ]

J. THIS SECTION IS ONLY TO BE COMPLETED WHERE EITHER PARENT OR THE CHILD IS DECEASED

Name of deceased (actual father or mother) [ ]

(send copy of death certificate)

Date of death (dd/mm/yyyy) [ ]

Place of death [ ]

If the applicant is NOT the actual father or mother, please state:

Full name and surname [ ]

Present address [ ]

What is your concern in applying for re-registration [ ]

Signature: [ ]

Date: [ ]