

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COUNTIES REGARDING  
COMPLETING AND FILING THE  
DECLARATION OF  
OREGON REGISTERED DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP  
FORM 45-6 (01/24)**

Center for Health Statistics  
Public Health Division  
Oregon Health Authority

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**Effective January 1, 2024 Revised Instructions**  
**Revised 1/01/2024**



**Updated to reflect new legislation related to legal name taken after domestic partnership, citing [ORS 106.315](#) and to remove requirement for partners to be of the same sex.**

## **General Information**

The Declaration of Oregon Registered Domestic Partnership is a legal form. The form should be completed in black or dark blue ink and should not be altered. **The legal form is 8 1/2 inches by 14 inches and has a gray stripe along the left-hand side. All sections of the form need to be completed unless otherwise specified in the instructions.** The forms must be signed by both individuals entering into the domestic partnership. Signatures must be acknowledged by a Notary Public. Completed, signed, and notarized forms must be signed and registered by a County Clerk to be valid.

The County Clerk registers the form with the Center for Health Statistics. A copy of the form, along with a commemorative "Certificate of Registered Domestic Partnership," can be provided to the partners in person or by mail.

Contact your County Clerk's office to get information about associated fees.

## **Definitions**

**Domestic Partnership** means the civil contract entered into in person between two individuals who are at least 18 years of age who are otherwise capable, and at least one of which is a resident of Oregon.

**Partner** is an individual joined in a domestic partnership.

## **Criteria for Entering into a Domestic Partnership**

Partnership is prohibited and void:

- When either party to the domestic partnership had a partner, wife or husband living at the time of the domestic partnership unless the partner, wife or husband was the other party to the domestic partnership;
- When the parties in the domestic partnership are first cousins or any nearer of kin to each other, see [ORS 106.315](#) **Prohibited and void domestic partnerships;**

- When either party is incapable of making the civil contract or consenting to the contract for want of legal age or sufficient understanding; and/or,
- When the consent of either party is obtained by force or fraud, the domestic partnership is void from the time it is so declared by a judgment of a court having jurisdiction of the domestic partnership.

NOTE: When parties are first cousins by adoption only, the domestic partnership is **not** prohibited or void.

### **Filing Forms with the Center for Health Statistics**

Every official registering Declarations of Domestic Partnership must send the completed forms to the Center for Health Statistics within 15 calendar days of the form being completed. Declarations of Domestic Partnerships filed with the Center for Health Statistics are vital records. Access to the record is restricted for 50 years after the event to family members and their legal representatives, and/or to persons or organizations with a personal or property right.

### **Amending Declaration of Domestic Partnership Forms**

Declaration of Domestic Partnership forms that are filed with the Center for Health Statistics are amended using the same process as for amending marriage records. A copy of the amended form is forwarded to the Center for Health Statistics with a letter requesting that a similar amendment be completed by the state.

# **INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE DECLARATION OF OREGON REGISTERED DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP FORM**

## **TOP OF FORM**

**DO NOT** write or mark in the space provided for the Local and State File Number. This space is for Local and State use only.

## **PARTNER A INFORMATION**

### **ITEM 1: PARTNER A - LEGAL NAME (First, Middle, Last)**

- Type or print Partner A's current legal first, middle and last names.
- Prefix names (*e.g.*, Sir, etc.) should be placed before the first name. (Mr., Ms., Mrs., and Miss are not prefixes.)
- Suffix names (*e.g.*, Jr., etc.) should be placed after the last name.

### **ITEM 2: PARTNER A - SURNAME AT BIRTH (if different than current legal surname) (NOTE: Surname is the last name.)**

- Complete only if current legal surname differs from birth legal surname.
- List only surname at birth. Other surnames should be listed in Item 3.
- Applicants may retain current surname or resume any former surname upon domestic partnership. This information is needed if either individual in a domestic partnership resumes any former surname during the domestic partnership.
- If surname at birth is not different than current legal name, leave blank.

### **ITEM 3: PARTNER A - OTHER LEGAL SURNAMES USED (NOTE: Surname is the last name.)**

- Complete only if there was a previous legal surname other than the birth surname (*e.g.*, names from previous marriages or legal name changes).
- List all previous legal surnames.
- Applicants may retain current surname or resume any former surname upon domestic partnership. This information is

needed if either individual in a domestic partnership resumes any former surname during the domestic partnership.

- If there are no other legal surnames, leave blank.

**ITEM 4: PARTNER A - BIRTHPLACE**

- Complete with U.S. state name or foreign country name.
- **DO NOT** list provinces or regions of domestic or foreign countries.
- Birthplace is used in combination with name and date of birth to distinguish a partner from another person with the same name.

**ITEM 5: PARTNER A - DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year)**

- List the month, day, and year of birth, in that order.
- Use the full name of the month (*e.g.*, January, February, March, etc.). Do not use abbreviations or numerical formats for the month.
- Date of birth, along with age in Item 6, is used for verification of age to meet the minimum age requirement for a domestic partnership and to distinguish a partner from another person with the same name.

**ITEM 6: PARTNER A - AGE (18 or older)**

- Enter numeric age. Age must be greater than or equal to 18.
- Age should be accurate and correspond to birth date in Item 5.

**ITEM 7: PARTNER A - SEX**

- Enter the sex of the partner.

**ITEM 8: PARTNER A - CURRENT PARTNERSHIP/MARITAL STATUS)**

- Enter "Never Married," "Widowed," or "Divorced."
- Neither partner can presently be in a marriage or a legally recognized domestic partnership.

**ITEM 9a: PARTNER A - RESIDENT COUNTY**

- Enter current county of residence.
- This item may be left BLANK if residing outside the U.S.

**ITEM 9b: PARTNER A - RESIDENT STATE**

- Enter the current U.S. state of residence.
- If not a U.S. resident, enter the name of the country.
- This is needed to establish eligibility for domestic partnership.

**ITEM 9c: PARTNER A - MAILING ADDRESS**

- Enter full mailing address (Number and Street, City, State, Country, and Zip Code).

**ITEM 10: PARTNER A - LEGAL NAME TAKEN AFTER DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP**

Oregon law currently allows the following name changes during registration of domestic partnership:

(1) Upon entering into a domestic partnership, either party to the domestic partnership may:

- (a) Retain the party's middle name, if any, and surname prior to the domestic partnership;
- (b) Retain the party's middle name, if any, and change the party's surname to the surname of the other party;
- (c) Either retain or remove the party's middle name, if any, and change the party's surname to a combination of one or more of the surnames, or names within the surnames, of either or both parties, with or without a hyphen;
- (d) Change the party's middle name, if any, to the party's surname at birth or prior to the domestic partnership; or
- (e) Add to the party's middle name, if any, the party's surname at birth or prior to domestic partnership and change the party's surname to the surname of the other party.

(2) Each party must indicate on the Declaration of Domestic Partnership the party's name after domestic partnership.

(3) The name of each party after domestic partnership as indicated on the Declaration of Domestic Partnership shall become the sole legal name of each party after domestic partnership. If a party indicates a name change other than as described in subsection (1) of this section, the party shall request approval of the court pursuant to ORS 33.410.

(4) As used in this section, "middle name" and "surname" mean a name that may consist of one or more different names.

Refer to information sheet "[Last name taken following a Declaration of Oregon Registered Domestic Partnership](#)" for more information including example name combinations.

## **PARTNER B INFORMATION**

### **ITEM 11: PARTNER B - LEGAL NAME (First, Middle, Last)**

- Type or print Partner B's current legal first, middle and last names.
- Prefix names (*e.g.*, Sir, etc.) should be placed before the first name. (Mr., Ms., Mrs., and Miss are not prefixes.)
- Suffix names (*e.g.*, Jr., etc.) should be placed after the last name.

### **ITEM 12: PARTNER B - SURNAME AT BIRTH (if different than current legal surname) (NOTE: Surname is the last name.)**

- Complete only if current legal surname differs from birth legal surname.
- List only surname at birth. Other surnames should be listed in Item 3.
- Applicants may retain current surname or resume any former surname upon domestic partnership. This information is needed if either individual in a domestic partnership resumes any former surname during the domestic partnership.
- If surname at birth is not different than current legal name, leave blank.

### **ITEM 13: PARTNER B - OTHER LEGAL SURNAMES USED (NOTE: Surname is the last name.)**

- Complete only if there was a previous legal surname other than the birth surname (*e.g.*, names from previous marriages or legal name changes).
- List all previous legal surnames.

- Applicants may retain current surname or resume any former surname upon domestic partnership. This information is needed if either individual in a domestic partnership resumes any former surname during the domestic partnership.
- If there are no other legal surnames, leave blank.

**ITEM 14: PARTNER B - BIRTHPLACE**

- Complete with U.S. state name or foreign country name.
- **DO NOT** list provinces or regions of domestic or foreign countries.
- Birthplace is used in combination with name and date of birth to distinguish a partner from another person with the same name.

**ITEM 15: PARTNER B - DATE OF BIRTH**

- List the month, day, and year of birth, in that order.
- Use the full name of the month (*e.g.*, January, February, March, etc.). Do not use abbreviations or numbers for the month.
- Date of birth, along with age (in Item 6), is used for verification of age to meet the minimum age requirement for a domestic partnership and to distinguish a partner from another person with the same name.

**ITEM 16: PARTNER B - AGE (18 or older)**

- Enter numeric age. Age must be greater than or equal to 18.
- Age should be accurate and correspond to birth date in Item 5.

**ITEM 17: PARTNER B - SEX**

- Enter the sex of the partner.

**ITEM 18: PARTNER B - CURRENT PARTNERSHIP/MARITAL STATUS**

- Enter "Never Married," "Widowed," or "Divorced."
- Neither partner can presently be in a marriage or a legally recognized domestic partnership.



**ITEM 19a: PARTNER B - RESIDENT COUNTY**

- Enter current county of residence.
- This item may be left BLANK if residing outside the U.S.

**ITEM 19b: PARTNER B - RESIDENT STATE**

- Enter the current U.S. state of residence.
- If not a U.S. resident, enter the name of the country.
- This is needed to establish eligibility for domestic partnership.

**ITEM 19c: PARTNER B - MAILING ADDRESS**

- Enter full mailing address (Number and Street, City, State, Country, and Zip Code).

**ITEM 20: PARTNER B - LEGAL NAME TAKEN AFTER DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP**

Oregon law currently allows the following name changes during registration of domestic partnership:

(1) Upon entering into a domestic partnership, either party to the domestic partnership may:

- (a) Retain the party's middle name, if any, and surname prior to the domestic partnership;
- (b) Retain the party's middle name, if any, and change the party's surname to the surname of the other party;
- (c) Either retain or remove the party's middle name, if any, and change the party's surname to a combination of one or more of the surnames, or names within the surnames, of either or both parties, with or without a hyphen;
- (d) Change the party's middle name, if any, to the party's surname at birth or prior to the domestic partnership; or
- (e) Add to the party's middle name, if any, the party's surname at birth or prior to domestic partnership and change the party's surname to the surname of the other party.

(2) Each party must indicate on the Declaration of Domestic Partnership the party's name after domestic partnership.

(3) The name of each party after domestic partnership as indicated on the Declaration of Domestic Partnership shall become the sole legal name of each party after domestic partnership. If a party indicates a name change other than as described in subsection (1) of this section, the party shall request approval of the court pursuant to ORS 33.410.

(4) As used in this section, "middle name" and "surname" mean a name that may consist of one or more different names.

Refer to information sheet "[Last name taken following a Declaration of Oregon Registered Domestic Partnership](#)" for more information including example name combinations.

### **SIGNATURES AND NOTARY CERTIFICATION**

Oregon law requires that each individual who wants to enter into a domestic partnership complete an acknowledgment stating that they are at least 18 years of age (17 with written consent of a parent or guardian), capable of entering into a domestic partnership, that one partner entering into this domestic partnership resides in Oregon, and that they consent to the jurisdiction of the circuit courts of Oregon for the purpose of obtaining a dissolution or annulment of this domestic partnership.

The form must be signed and dated by each individual entering into this domestic partnership. A Notary Public must acknowledge each individual's signature.

### **LOCAL OFFICIAL INFORMATION**

This section must be completed by the county official registering the form in order for the form to be valid.

### **STATISTICAL INFORMATION**

STATISTICAL ITEMS 20 - 25 ARE FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES ONLY. THEY DO NOT APPEAR ON THE CERTIFIED RECORD. (NOTE: These ITEMS were not renumbered in new form. Therefore, there are two ITEM 20s). These statistical items are OPTIONAL. Enter "REFUSED" in each item that is not completed.

This statistical information is used to study the demographic characteristics of persons entering domestic partnerships. The first row contains information for Partner A; the second row is for Partner B.

**ITEM 20: NUMBER OF THIS PARTNERSHIP**

- Include previous marriages, as well as previous legally recognized domestic partnerships in total count.
- Enter "First," "Second," etc.

**ITEM 21: IF PREVIOUSLY MARRIED OR PART OF A DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP, HOW DID IT END?**

- Only mark something if the partner was in a previous legally recognized domestic partnership or marriage. Otherwise, leave blank.
- 21a and 21b: Indicate "Death," "Divorce," "Dissolution," or "Annulment."

**ITEM 22: HISPANIC ORIGIN**

- Specify "Yes" or "No."
- If "Yes," specify Hispanic group. For the purposes of this item, "Hispanic" refers to people whose origins are from Spain, Mexico, or Central or South America.

Options:

Yes, Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano;

Yes, Puerto Rican;

Yes, Cuban;

Yes, other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino;

No;

or Unknown

**ITEM 23: RACE(S)**

- Race is self-identified.
- Applicants may indicate multiple races.

Options:

American Indian or Alaska Native;

Asian Indian;

Black or African American;  
Chinese;  
Filipino;  
Guamanian or Chamorro;  
Japanese;  
Korean;  
Native Hawaiian;  
Samoan;  
White;  
Vietnamese;  
and/or Other (Specify)

**ITEM 24: EDUCATION: HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED.**

- Enter the category that best describes the highest degree or level of school completed by the applicant. Report only those years of school that were completed.

Options:

8th grade or less;

9th-12th grade, no diploma;

High school graduate or GED completed;

Some college credit, but no degree;

Associate's degree (*e.g.*, AA, AS);

Bachelor's degree (*e.g.*, BA, AB, BS);

Master's degree (*e.g.*, MA, MS, MEng, MEd, MSW, MBA);

Doctorate (*e.g.*, PhD, EdD);

or Professional degree (*e.g.*, MD, DDS, DVM, LLB, JD)

**ITEM 25: OCCUPATION**

- Enter the occupation that each individual has at time of entering into this domestic partnership.