



PRINT OR TYPE CLEARLY. FILL OUT APPLICATION COMPLETELY. Do not leave any blanks.
Use "none" or "N/A" if applicable. **An incomplete application will delay your appointment.**
FEE: \$42 – make check or money order payable to: COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.

CHECK ONE: ☐ **New Appointment**
☐ **Reappointment** (have been a notary in Pennsylvania before)

If you have ever been a notary in Pennsylvania before or used a different name:	
Notary commission expiration date	Full name on previous commission
Notary commission ID number	Other name used on previous commission or other/former name(s) you have used

PART I: Applicant Information (NOTE: Employer/Business contact information will be public record)			
First Name	Middle Name or Initial (if used)	Last Name	Suffix (if applicable)
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	Social Security Number (xxx-xx-xxxx)	Email Address	
Name of Employer/Business where Notary Commission will be used (Do not leave blank. If not applicable, please indicate.)			
Employer/Business Street Address (P.O. Box alone is insufficient)		City	State
Employer/Business Telephone (include area code)		Zip Code	
Home Street Address (P.O. Box alone is insufficient)		City	State
Home Telephone (include area code)		Zip Code	
		County	

Part II: Education; Criminal, Disciplinary and Legal History (Check or mark appropriate boxes)	YES (✓)	NO (✓)
I am a notary applicant for initial appointment or reappointment and I have completed a three-hour notary public education course, pre-approved by the Department, within the six-month period immediately preceding this application. I have attached a copy of my course completion certificate and retained my original. Lack of proof of education will result in application rejection.		
Have you ever been convicted or accepted Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition in resolution of a felony or misdemeanor preceding the date of this application? Conviction includes a finding of guilt by a court or jury, a plea of guilty or nolo contendere or a finding of not guilty due to insanity or of guilty but mentally ill. If yes, attach full details (name of court, plea/conviction/ARD, sentence and length of probation) and appropriate supporting documents with a signed and dated personal explanation.		
Have you ever resigned a notary commission or had a notary commission suspended, revoked or otherwise disciplined by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or any other state/jurisdiction preceding the date of this application? If yes, attach full details and appropriate supporting documents with a signed and dated personal explanation.		
Have you ever had any other professional or occupational license suspended, revoked or otherwise disciplined? If yes, attach full details and appropriate supporting documents with a signed and dated personal explanation.		
Have you ever had a judgment levied against you or admitted liability in a legal proceeding for your actions as a notary public? If yes, attach full details and appropriate supporting documents with a signed and dated personal explanation.		

Note that disclosing your social security number on this application is mandatory for the Department of State to comply with the requirements of the federal Social Security Act pertaining to child support enforcement, as implemented in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at 23 Pa. C.S. § 4304.1(a). To enforce domestic child support orders, the Commonwealth's licensing boards must provide to the Department of Human Services (DHS) information prescribed by DHS about the licensee, including the social security number.

APPLICANT AFFIDAVIT: I am at least 18 years of age; a citizen or permanent legal resident of the United States; a resident of or have a place of employment in Pennsylvania; able to read and write English. I meet all the qualifications for appointment and commission as prescribed by law and have the honesty, integrity, competence and reliability to act as a notary public. I shall furnish additional evidence of these statements, if requested, which shall be satisfactory to the Department of State. To the best of my knowledge and belief, this application contains no misrepresentations or falsifications, omission or concealments of material fact and the information given by me is true and complete. I understand that any false statement made is subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities) and may result in the suspension, revocation, or denial of my notary commission.

Applicant Signature (must match name in Part I)

Applicant Printed Name (must match name in Part I)

Date

PENNSYLVANIA NOTARY PUBLIC APPLICATION – INSTRUCTIONS

To qualify for appointment and commission as a Pennsylvania Notary Public, you MUST:

- Be at least eighteen (18) years of age
- Be a citizen or permanent legal resident of the United States
- Be a resident of Pennsylvania or have a place of employment or practice within this Commonwealth
- Be able to read and write English
- Have completed at least three hours of approved notary education within the six months immediately preceding your application (see below for more information)
- Pass an examination (for applicants who do not hold a current and active commission – see below for more information)
- Have the honesty, integrity, competence and reliability to act as a notary public – this is generally the absence of a conviction of, or acceptance of Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition, by the applicant for a felony or an offense involving fraud, dishonesty or deceit
- Not be otherwise disqualified to receive a commission

The following persons are NOT eligible to hold the office of Notary Public:

- Any member of the Congress of the United States, and any person, whether an officer, a subordinate officer or agent holding any office or appointment of profit or trust under the legislative, executive, or judicial departments of the government of the United States, to which a salary, fees or perquisites are attached.
- Any member of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania.

Notary Public Application Procedures

General Instructions: This application must be **TYPEWRITTEN or PRINTED legibly**. Applications will be accepted only on the form approved for use by Department of State. This form may not be altered in any way. Do not send a copy of your completed form, only the original will be accepted. All answers are subject to investigation and false statements (including omissions) will be deemed as adequate grounds for rejection.

PART I: Use your full name as you would like it to appear on your commission. Nicknames will not be accepted. You may use any of the following: full first name and last name; full first name, middle initial and last name; full first name, full middle name and last name; first name initial, full middle name and last name. Your signature at the bottom of the application must match the full name printed in this section. Your commission will be prepared and issued in this name. If applicable, employer business information may be the same as home address information (i.e., home office). Note that a home office address and telephone number listed in the employer/business address section of the application will become public information.

PART II: Answer all questions. Where “yes” is checked, supply full details and appropriate supporting documents with a signed and dated personal explanation.

Signature: The applicant's signature on the application must exactly match the applicant's name as provided on the application. The applicant shall use a legible, recognizable handwritten signature, which can be attributed to the applicant by anyone examining or authenticating the signature. A signature is legible and recognizable if it is distinct, easily readable and understandable, and the notary's full name may be clearly discerned by looking at the signature. If an applicant's preferred signature is not legible and recognizable, the applicant must also legibly print his or her name immediately adjacent to his or her preferred signature.

To ensure uninterrupted “commissioned” status, completed applications for reappointment should be submitted to the Department of State **AT LEAST TWO TO THREE MONTHS** prior to the expiration of the current commission. Renewal applicants should allow **AT LEAST ONE MONTH** for processing after submitting a completed renewal application to the Department.

New appointees should allow **AT LEAST FOUR TO SIX WEEKS** for processing after submitting a completed application to the Department of State. If notice of appointment is not received within this time, contact the Office at the address at the top of the application.

Fee: Each application must be accompanied by a check or money order for \$42.00, made payable to “Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,” and mailed to 210 North Office Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120. **The fee is non-refundable.** The Department of State is authorized to revoke the notary public commission of a notary public who issues a personal insufficient funds check to the order of any State agency or the Commonwealth.

Oath of Office, Bond, Recording: Upon appointment, the Department of State will send notice of appointment to the applicant, with further instructions and an official bond and oath form to be executed by the applicant. These materials will be sent to the applicant's business address as provided on the application. The applicant should record the commission, executed bond and oath form in the Recorder of Deeds in the county where their office is located. This must be completed within **FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS** after the date of appointment or the commission becomes null and void. Extensions will not be given.

All correspondence from the Department of State concerning your notary public application, notice of appointment to office and bond will be mailed to the employer/business address you have provided on your application. Your name, employer/business name, employer/business address, employer/business telephone number and commissioning history will become public information. If you list your home address, “N/A” or “None” in the employer/business address section of the application, your home address and home telephone number will become public information.

NEW Mandatory Education Requirement for all applicants – The Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts, Act 73 of 2013 (effective October 26, 2017), requires all applicants for both initial appointment and reappointment as a notary public to complete at least three hours of approved notary education within the six months immediately preceding the application for appointment or reappointment. Under the new law, the exemption previously available for notaries whose commission was in effect on July 1, 2003 is abolished. All notaries public are required to complete an approved notary education course in order to be appointed or reappointed, including those notaries previously “grandfathered” from the prior education requirement by court ruling.

NEW Examination Requirement for applicants who do not hold a current notary commission – The Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts (effective October 26, 2017) requires all applicants who do not hold a current commission in Pennsylvania to pass an examination. This includes applicants who have never held a notary commission and all applicants who previously held a notary commission but whose commission has expired at the time their application for appointment is received by the Department. Upon approval of the application, applicants who are required to take the examination will be provided with information on the computer-based testing procedures and sites.