

Frequently Asked Questions regarding the revised DS-3053 “Statement of Consent: Issuance of a U.S. Passport to a Minor Under Age 16”:

Q. Why was DS-3053 revised?

A. The Department has determined that splitting the old DS-3053 into two separate forms would promote clarity. The requirements for notarization of the statement of consent by the non-applying parent, photocopies of ID, exigent/special family circumstances, and identifying information for non-applying parents can now be provided through two separate forms based on the applicant’s circumstances.

Q. What new information is required from the non-applying parent on the DS-3053?

A. The non-applying parent must provide his/her street address, telephone number, and email address.

Q. Are there any other changes?

A. The new DS-3053 contains an explanatory statement to remind the non-applying parent that he/she must sign the form in front of a licensed notary public. Additionally, the requirement of a photocopy of the front and back of the non-applying parent’s identification document is highlighted where the non-applying parent must sign and date the form.

Frequently Asked Questions regarding the New DS-5525 “Statement of Exigent/Special Family Circumstances: Issuance of a U.S. Passport to a Minor Under Age 16”:

Q. Why was a decision made to separate this information from the non-applying parent’s consent form?

A. The Department has determined that creating and structuring a new form solely devoted to the applying parent’s statement of exigent/special family circumstances provided the Department the opportunity to gather more specific information regarding the exceptional situation and the non-applying parent, as well as allowing the applying parent to provide a better case for a waiver of the two-parent consent requirement.

Q. What new information is required from the applying parent on the DS-5525?

A. The DS-5525 contains new items (fields) asking the applying parent to complete information regarding the non-applying parent’s:

- Name (including any aliases);
- Date of birth; and,

- His/her last known street address, telephone number, and email address.

Additionally, the new form specifically requires the applying parent to answer:

- Whether there is a custody order regarding the minor applicant (if so, the form asks for a copy of it to be submitted); and,
- Whether the non-applying parent is currently incarcerated (if so, the form asks where s/he is incarcerated and requests documentation regarding the incarceration).

Q. Why is the above information asked for?

A. The additional biographic and address information about the non-applying parent may help if there are inconsistencies found regarding the request for an exception to the two-parent consent requirement. The custody order question will provide the Department with information regarding any previous court adjudication on custody, and may, hopefully, reduce suspense of an application (by asking for the court order in advance because the parent mentions one in his/her statement on old DS-3053). The incarceration question similarly asks for information about one of the more common bases for exigent/special circumstances that the parent may not think to provide in a general statement.

Q. Are there any other changes?

A. Two final items on the DS-5525 specifically ask the applying parent for information that we need to know in order to consider waiving the two-parent consent requirement for the minor applicant. Item 9 asks for the number of attempts made to locate the non-applying parent in whereabouts unknown cases, including dates and outcome of these efforts. Item 10 asks whether the applying parent tried contacting the non-applying parent through a third party (family, attorney) and the name/contact information of that person.