



After your marriage performed in Samoa: How to update the Swiss civil status register

14.04.2022

Documents to submit

- Samoa Certified Copy of Marriage Entry with Apostille**
 - issued within the last 6 months. If the document is older, a new document must be ordered
 - legalised with an Apostille
 - photocopies, scans or certified copies will not be accepted
 - will not be returned to you

- Form "[Additional information after your marriage/civil union performed abroad](#)",** signed by both parties within the last 6 months (with place and date)

- If the Swiss spouse/partner is resident in Switzerland:** Copy of the valid Swiss passport and if available a copy of the certificate of civil status or birth certificate (showing the names of the parents)

For the non-Swiss spouse / partner:

- Birth certificate with Apostille**
 - showing the full name of the parents
 - issued within the last 6 months. If the document is older, a new document must be ordered
 - legalised with an Apostille
 - photocopies, scans or certified copies will not be accepted
 - will not be returned to you

- If single (= never been married or in a registered partnership before): A statutory Declaration/Affidavit with Apostille**
 - sworn before a Notary Public
 - stating the following:
 - Residential address at the time of the marriage
 - Nationalities
 - Confirmation of the marital status (never been married or in a registered partnership before) prior to current marriage/civil union
 - original not older than 6 months
 - legalised with an Apostille
 - photocopies, scans or certified copies will not be accepted
 - will not be returned to you

- If divorced: Divorce order from Samoa with Apostille**
 - Original order dissolving marriage or an original certified copy, issued within the last 6 months by the Court which granted the order (will not be returned to you)
 - with mention of date order made and date order sealed
 - legalised with an Apostille
 - photocopies, scans or certified copies will not be accepted

See next page for further information

- If widowed: Samoa Death certificate of previous spouse with Apostille**
 - issued within the last 6 months. If the document is older, a new document must be ordered
 - legalised with an Apostille
 - photocopies, scans or certified copies will not be accepted
 - will not be returned to you
- Two copies of passport**
- If any document has not been issued by the Samoa authorities, please contact this representation.** We will then inform you about the criteria required for the non-Samoa documents. Additional documents and/or an advance payment may be required for the verification process, which can take several months.

Translation

Documents that are not in a Swiss national language or in English must be translated.

Fees

Registration of the marriage in the Swiss civil status register is free of charge.

Further information

Where to obtain the documents?

Samoa Bureau of Statistics (SBS)
Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Division
Level 1, Government Building (MFMII)
PO Box 1151
Apia
Samoa
Website: www.sbs.gov.ws
Email: info.stats@sbs.gov.ws
Phone: (685) 24 384
Fax: (685) 24 675

Where to obtain the Apostille?

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
PO Box L1859
Apia
Samoa
Website: www.govt.ws
Email: mfa@mfat.gov.ws
Phone: +685 21 171 / +685 25 313

Where to send the documents?

Embassy of Switzerland
10 Customhouse Quay
P.O. Box 25004
Wellington 6146
New Zealand

Upon receipt of the relevant documents, we will translate and legalise the documents and forward them to the appropriate authority in Switzerland, so that the family details can be updated in the Swiss civil status register (Infostar); this takes on average 3-4 months.

The civil registrar authorities in Switzerland may request additional documents / information.