
CHAPTER 192**PASSPORTS****PASSPORT RULES****(SECTION 6)***[Commencement 31st July, 1965]**S.I. 140/1965**S.I. 63/1966**S.I. 1/1970**S.I. 52/1973**S.I. 72/1973**S.I. 68/1975**S.I. 74/1989**S.I. 76/2007*

1. These Rules may be cited as the Passport Rules.

Short title.

2. In these Rules —

Interpretation.

“biometric data and features” means —

*S.I. 52/1973.**S.I. 76/2007.*

(i) digitized fingerprints;

(ii) machine-readable facial images; and

(iii) machine-readable biographical data including signatures;

“diplomatic passport” means a passport referred to in paragraph (a) of rule 4;

“official passport” means a passport referred to in paragraph (b) of rule 4;

“ordinary passport” means a passport referred to in paragraph (c) of rule 4;

“Minister” means the Minister responsible for Passports.

3. All applications for passports shall be made to a Passport and Visa Officer.

To whom passport applications made.

S.I. 52/1973; S.I. 74/1989.

4. The Minister may, in his discretion, issue —

Classes of passport.

S.I. 52/1973.

(a) a diplomatic passport to —

(i) the Governor-General;

(ii) the Prime Minister;

(iii) any other Minister;

(iv) the Head and Deputy Head of a Diplomatic Mission of the Bahamas in a foreign country;

(v) a High Commissioner and Deputy High Commissioner of The Bahamas;

- (vi) a Consul or Consul General of The Bahamas;
- (vii) such other persons as may be designated by the Minister from time to time;
- (b) an official passport to —
 - (i) the Chief Justice;
 - (ii) a Parliamentary Secretary;
 - (iii) a Member of the House of Assembly;
 - (iv) a Senator;
 - (v) the Secretary to the Cabinet;
 - (vi) the Financial Secretary;
 - (vii) the Commissioner of Police;
 - (viii) the Chairman of The Bahamas Monetary Authority;
 - (ix) Auditor-General;
 - (x) the Permanent Secretary of any Department of the Government of The Bahamas;
 - (xi) a Vice Consul;
 - (xii) A First, Second or Third Secretary of a Diplomatic Mission of The Bahamas in a Foreign Country, or of a High Commission of The Bahamas;
 - (xiii) such other persons as may be designated by the Minister from time to time;
- (c) an ordinary passport to any citizen of The Bahamas.

Forms of
application.
S.I. 52/1973.

5. (1) No ordinary passport shall be issued unless there is first completed an application and declaration made upon the appropriate form available on application from a Passport and Visa Officer.

S.I. 76/2007.

(2) A separate passport application is required in respect of each and every person.

S.I. 63/1966.

(3) Every application for a passport shall be made in the proper name of the applicant or in the name by which he is usually and commonly known, and no passport shall be issued to an applicant in any other name.

Authentication
and sponsorship
of application.
S.I. 1/1970;
S.I. 52/1973.

6. Each application for an ordinary passport shall be authenticated and sponsored by a marriage officer, a medical practitioner, a counsel and attorney of the Supreme Court, a public officer of or above the rank of assistant head of department, a bank officer, magistrate or justice of the peace, who has been personally acquainted with the applicant for at least two years and who is not a member of the immediate family of the applicant.

7. (1) Every application for an ordinary passport shall be accompanied by three copies of a recent photograph of the applicant.

Photographs
required.
S.I. 76/2007.

(2) A recent photograph for the purposes of this section shall be a photograph taken within a six-month period immediately preceding the application.

(3) Photographs shall —

- (a) be taken full face, front view, head centered within frame, without hat or head covering and with eyes open;
- (b) be taken with the entire face in focus, fine facial features discernible, subject and background accurately presented and with natural skin tones reproduced;
- (c) present full head from top of hair to bottom of chin with height of head measuring one inch to $1\frac{3}{8}$ ^{ths} of an inch;
- (d) be taken with eye level between $1\frac{1}{8}$ ^{ths} of an inch and $1\frac{3}{8}$ ^{ths} of an inch from the bottom of the photograph;
- (e) be two inches by two inches in size and shall not be mounted;
- (f) be in colour, set against a plain white or off-white background and printed on normal thin photographic paper or stock;
- (g) be of clear print with a continuous tone quality;
- (h) not be retouched or otherwise enhanced or softened; and
- (i) if digitally printed, be produced without discernible pixels or dot patterns.

(4) The person authenticating and sponsoring the application shall endorse the reverse side of one copy of each photograph with the words —

“I certify that this is a true likeness of the applicant
Mr. (Mrs. or Miss).....”,

and shall add his signature.

(5) All photographs accompanying an application for a passport shall become the property of the Government.