

Instructions for Completing the Petition for Change of Name

Who can file a Petition for Change of Name at the Nooksack Tribal Court?

- Any enrolled member of the Nooksack Indian Tribe, 18 years of age or older, who desires to change his or her own name can file the petition in the Nooksack Tribal Court.
- Any person whose minor child or ward is an enrolled member of the Nooksack Indian Tribe can file the petition in the Nooksack Tribal Court to change the name of that youth.

Note: The Tribal Court shall not grant a petition when the individual seeking a name change is:

- a) a registered sex offender;
- b) currently under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections;
- c) seeking a name change of, or to, a traditional Indian name.

Where and when can I file the petition?

File your petition with the civil clerk at the Nooksack Tribal Court, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays and other scheduled closures).

How do I file the petition?

- A \$150.00 non-refundable filing fee must be paid in advance of filing, at the Nooksack Tribal Accounting office. You will be given a receipt for your payment.
- Bring the receipt, the original completed/signed petition and two copies of the completed/signed petition to the court clerk.
- If you are petitioning to change the name of a minor, you must include a Consent to Name Change, signed by the child's other legal parent/guardian; or, alternatively, information or documentation showing the measures you have taken to notify the other parent/guardian of the requested change and the date and time of the hearing.
- In cases where a hearing is required, the court clerk will schedule a hearing date, which you are required to attend. Please bring a valid photo ID with you for your hearing.

The Tribal Court will file a copy of any order issued with the Tribal Enrollment Office, and provide you two certified copies of the order.

