

Step 2: Find someone to witness your declaration

You now need to have your statutory declaration witnessed. Many people can witness a statutory declaration, including:

- Justice of the Peace

- police officer
- court registrar
- bank manager
- medical practitioner
- dentist.

Please note that:

- authorised witnesses do not have to accept a request to witness a statutory declaration
- organisations who employ people who are authorised to witness a statutory declaration may not offer this service as an organisation.

When making arrangements to have a statutory declaration witnessed, it is best to confirm beforehand that a witness is available at a convenient time and place.

A full list of authorised witnesses is below.

List of authorised statutory declaration witnesses

Under Section 30 (2) of the *Oaths and Affirmations Act 2018* (as of 1 March 2019), previously *Evidence (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1958*, the list of persons who may witness statutory declarations includes:

- A person currently licensed or registered to practice in Australia as one of the following occupations:
 - Architect
 - Chiropractor
 - Conveyancer
 - Dentist
 - Financial adviser or financial planner
 - Legal practitioner
 - Medical practitioner
 - Midwife
 - Migration agent
 - Nurse
 - Occupational therapist

- Optometrist
- Patent attorney
- Pharmacist
- Physiotherapist
- Psychologist
- Trade marks attorney
- Veterinary surgeon
- An accountant who meets at least one of the following criteria:
 - Fellow of the National Tax Accountants' Association
 - Member of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand
 - Member of the Association of Taxation and Management Accountants
 - Member of CPA Australia
 - Member of the Institute of Public Accountants
- Agent of the Australian Postal Corporation who is in charge of an office supplying postal services to the public
- Australian Public Service employee engaged on an ongoing basis with 5 or more years of continuous service who is not otherwise authorised
- Australian Consular Officer or Australian Diplomatic Officer
- Bailiff
- Bank officer with 5 or more continuous years of service
- Building society officer with 5 or more years of continuous service
- Chief executive officer of a Commonwealth court
- Clerk of a court
- Commissioner for Affidavits
- Commissioner for Declarations
- Credit union officer with 5 or more years of continuous service
- Employee of a Commonwealth authority engaged on a permanent basis with 5 or more years of continuous service who is not otherwise authorised
- Employee of the Australian Trade and Investment Commission who is authorised in writing by the Secretary of DFAT to collect fees under s 3(d) of the *Consular Fees Act 1955*, if at a place outside Australia and in the course of the employee's duties at that place
- Employee of the Commonwealth who is authorised in writing by the Secretary of DFAT to collect fees under s 3(c) of the *Consular Fees Act 1955*, if at a place outside Australia and in the course of the employee's duties at that place
- An engineer who meets at least one of the following criteria:
 - A member of Engineers Australia, other than a student
 - A Registered Professional Engineer of Professionals Australia

- Registered as an engineer under a law of the Commonwealth or a State or Territory
 - Registered on the National Engineering Register by Engineers Australia
- Finance company officer with 5 or more years of continuous service
- Holder of a Commonwealth statutory office not otherwise specified
 - For example, Director of the Australian Institute of Family Studies
- IBAC Officers
- Integrity Oversight Victoria Officer
- Judge
- Justice of the Peace
- Local government Councillor
- Magistrate
- Registered marriage celebrant
- Master of a court
- Member of the Australian Defence Force who meets at least one of the following criteria:
 - An officer
 - A non-commissioned officer with 5 or more years of continuous service
 - A warrant officer
- Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy
- Member of the Governance Institute of Australia Ltd
- Member of the Parliament of a State
- Member of a Territory legislature
- Member of a local government authority
- Registered minister of religion
- Notary public, including a notary public exercising functions at a place outside either the Commonwealth or the external Territories of the Commonwealth
- Permanent employee of the Australian Postal Corporation with 5 or more years continuous service who is employed in an office providing postal services to the public
- Permanent employee with 5 or more years of continuous service who is not otherwise specified, if employed at one of the following:
 - State
 - Territory
 - State authority
 - Territory authority
 - Local government authority
- Police officer

- Police reservist
- Protective service officer (PSO)
- Registrar, or Deputy Registrar, of a court
- A school principal
- Senior executive employee of a Commonwealth authority
- Senior executive employee of a State or Territory
- Senior Executive Service employee of the Commonwealth
- Sheriff
- Sheriff's officer
- State Trustees officer or employee with a classification level of 2 or above
- Teacher employed on a permanent full-time or part-time basis at a school or tertiary education institution
- Transport Accident Commission officer or employee with a classification of level 2 or above
- VicRoads officer or employee with a classification of level 2 or above
- A Victorian Public Service employee with a prescribed classification level of 2 or above
 - For example, a project officer employed as a VPS4 or an administrative assistant employed as a VPS2
- Victorian WorkCover Authority officer or employee with a classification of band 2 or above
- Any authorised affidavit taker, including:
 - A judicial officer
 - For example, a judge or magistrate
 - An associate to a judicial officer
 - An honorary justice
 - The prothonotary or a deputy prothonotary of the Supreme Court
 - The registrar of probates or an assistant registrar of probates
 - The registrar or a deputy registrar of the County Court
 - The principal registrar, a registrar or a deputy registrar of the Magistrates' Court
 - The principal registrar, a registrar or a deputy registrar of the Children's Court
 - The principal registrar, a registrar or a deputy registrar of VCAT
 - The principal registrar or a registrar of the Coroners Court
 - A member of VCAT
 - A member or former member of either House of the Parliament of Victoria
 - A member or former member of either House of the Parliament of the Commonwealth
 - A public notary
 - A senior officer of a Victorian municipal Council who meets one of the following criteria:

■ S19 (1)

(r) a senior officer of a Council as specified in section 48(5) of the Local Government Act 2020;

S 48 (5) of the Local Government Act 2020 further defines:

For the purposes of section 19(1)(r) of the Oaths and Affirmations Act 2018, a senior officer of a Council is a senior member of Council staff who is authorised in writing by the Chief Executive Officer as an authorised affidavit taker.

- A fellow of the Institute of Legal Executives (Victoria)
- A person acting judicially
 - For example, an arbitrator or any person or body with authority to hear, receive and examine evidence
- Any other officer or person empowered, authorised or permitted by or under any Act or rules of a court or rules of a tribunal to administer affidavits