

California Notary Commission Process

Step-by-step instructions to start your Notary commission.



1. Complete State-Required Training and Receive Proof of Completion from Instructor

2. Fill Out Notary Application

Applications will be provided at NNA® live seminar locations. If you download an application, the instructions must be printed on the back of the form to be accepted by the State.

3. Submit Application and Take Exam

The following are required to submit your application and take the exam:

- Current photo ID (California Driver's License or ID Card issued by the DMV)
- Proof of Completion from your training class
- Completed and signed application
- 2" x 2" passport-style application photo
- Live Scan fingerprints
- A \$40 application fee payable to the Secretary of State. Payment must be a check or money order; cash is not accepted. Include the last four digits of your Social Security number on your check.

4. Pass Exam

You will receive your test results by email or mail within 15 business days from CPS HR Consulting.

5. Receive Your Commission Packet

The processing time for your Notary Commission can take 6 to 10 weeks. You will receive your commission packet from the State. Here is what you will receive in your Commission Packet:

- Filing instructions
- Your Notary Public commission certificate
- Two Notary Public Oath and Certificate of Filing forms
- A Certificate of Authorization to Manufacture Notary Public Seals (see step #6 below for details)

6. Order Your Notary Seal and Supplies

To receive your official state seal, mail the original (not a copy) Certificate of Authorization that you received in your state commission packet to the NNA or the company making your seal stamp. You also need to order your required Notary supplies. Many Notaries purchase their supplies when they register for training.

7. File Your Bond and Take Your Oath

You have 30 days from your Commission Certificate date to file your bond and take your Oath of Office at your county clerk's office. Follow the instructions provided in the packet to complete this step.

8. Begin Performing Notary Duties

Once you have filed your oath and bond and received your Notary seal stamp you may begin performing the duties of a Notary Public.

As the trusted leader in serving and educating California's Notaries, the NNA looks forward to assisting you through your commission process. Call us at 1-888-896-6827 or visit our website: NationalNotary.org/CA/Become

