

LAW OF GEORGIA
ON RULES OF REGISTRATION AND IDENTITY VERIFICATION
OF CITIZENS OF GEORGIA AND ALIENS RESIDING IN
GEORGIA

(AS ADDED BY LAW OF GEORGIA OF OCTOBER 27, 2000)

Chapter I. General Provisions

Article 1.

1. In accordance with the Constitution of Georgia and international instruments concerning human and citizens' rights, any person who legally stays in Georgia shall be guaranteed to have the right to free movement and free choice of a place of residence within the entire territory of the country.
2. These rights may be derogated from only in accordance with to the law for the purposes of state security and public safety in a democratic society, protection of health, prevention of crime or administration of justice.

Chapter II. Registration and Removing from the Register

Article 2

1. For the purposes of ascertaining data on citizens of Georgia and aliens residing in Georgia as well as for the exercise and discharge of citizens' rights, a procedure of registration of citizens of Georgia and aliens residing in Georgia shall be established.
2. For the purposes of this Law, a citizen of a foreign country permanently residing in Georgia and a stateless person shall be deemed as an alien residing in Georgia.
3. Regardless of whether they are or are not registered, constitutional rights and freedoms of citizens of Georgia and aliens residing in Georgia, including the right to dispose property, shall not be derogated from or their exercise shall not be made conditional on the fact of registration, except in cases defined in the elections legislation.
4. The State, a local self-governance or governance body, any other institution or juridical person may, in cases established by the Georgian legislation, for the purposes of verification of a person's place of residence, require the person to present his registration card or its copy only, which does not need to be notarized.
5. No State, local self-governance or governance body, any other institution or juridical person, while concluding an employment contract or performing other juridical action, may require a person to present a certificate on his place of residence.

Article 3.

1. Citizens of Georgia and aliens residing in Georgia shall be registered according to their domicile; in case of several domiciles, registration shall be made according to one of the domiciles.
2. According to this Law a person's domicile shall be considered the place chosen by him as his place of residence.
3. Persons aged under 16 as well as those being under custody or guardianship shall be registered together with their parents, custodians, guardians or other legal representatives. They may be registered independently only if the above-mentioned persons give a written consent thereto.

Article 4.

1. If a person changes his domicile for more than 3 months, he shall inform the respective state agency in the area of his new residence thereof pursuant to Article 5 of this Law. The agency shall register such a person and issue a registration card within 5 days.
2. The registration agency shall within 3 days from the new registration inform thereof the former registration agency. The latter shall remove the person from the register within 1 day after receiving such notice.
3. If a person's domicile was changed for more than 3 months due to his pre-trial detention, serving of sentence or execution of official duties, the person shall not be obliged to be registered. In such case a respective body shall inform the agency where the person is registered about the person's whereabouts.
4. A registration card shall include the following information:
 - a) first name;
 - b) last name;

- c) address;
- d) date of registration;
- e) title of the registration agency;
- f) signature of an authorized official;
- g) stamp and seal evidencing the registration.

The registration card shall be valid only together with the identification (residence) card.

Article 5

1. In order to be registered, a person shall submit his application, identification (residence) card and a document certifying ownership of a dwelling or consent of the dwelling owner, that is a written consent of the dwelling owner or the lessee of a state-owned dwelling. The applicant shall not be requested to submit or to have notarized documents certifying ownership or lease.
The application shall include first and last names, address of the new domicile and the date of submission of the application.
2. A person having no domicile shall be registered in the area of his actual presence, without indication of the address.
3. A person who is registered without indication of address shall once in every three months appear before the agency of the Ministry of Interior where he was registered.

Article 6

No person submitting all documents stipulated in Article 5 of this Law, shall be denied registration unless otherwise provided for by law.

Article 7.

1. Registration and removal from the register of a person residing in Georgia shall be carried out by agencies of the Ministry of Interior.
2. Registration of citizens of Georgia residing abroad shall be carried out by diplomatic or consular missions of Georgia.

Article 8

During the registration, a registration card shall be filled out for each person, which includes the person's full name, sex, address (if indicated by the person), date and place of birth, citizenship, address of the former place of residence, personal number and the date when the card was filled out.

Article 9

The registration agency shall inform the respective military commissariat within 10 days from registration or removal from the register about the date of registration and the address of the new residence in case of registration and the date of removing from the register in case of removal from the register.

Article 10

A late person shall be removed from the register after his death certificate is presented or a written notice is received from the civil status registration body.

Civil status registration bodies shall notify the respective agencies of the Ministry of Interior about the death of a person within 5 days following the death registration date.

Chapter III. Rules of Identity Verification of Citizens of Georgia and Aliens Residing in Georgia

Article 11

The following are basic documents for identity verification of citizens of Georgia and aliens residing in Georgia:

- a) an identification card of a citizen of Georgia;
- b) a residence card.

Article 12

1. The identification card of a citizen of Georgia verifies citizenship of Georgia and identity of a person.
2. The residence card verifies the identity of aliens residing in Georgia.

Article 13.

1. Identification cards (residence cards) of persons residing in Georgia shall be filled in, issued or replaced by agencies of the Ministry of Interior.
Identification cards (residence card) of persons residing in abroad shall be filled in, issued or replaced by diplomatic or consular missions of Georgia.
2. The registration agency shall issue an identification (residence) card within 10 days after the applicant presents all necessary documents.
Issuance of an identification (residence) card shall be suspended if presence of any false or incorrect data in the presented documents is discovered.

Article 14

1. An identification (residence) card of a citizen of Georgia shall consist of two pages, shall be printed and filled out in Georgian, and additionally in Abkhazian if it was issued in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia.
2. An identification card of citizen of Georgia shall be issued to a citizen who has attained to the age of 16.
3. An identification card shall contain the following information:
 - a) first name;
 - b) last name;
 - c) date of birth (year, month, day);
 - d) place of birth;
 - e) personal number;
 - f) photo stamped by a respective agency of the Ministry of Interior or a diplomatic or consular mission;
 - g) signature of the cardholder;
 - h) title of the agency issuing the card;
 - i) signature of the head of the respective agency of the Ministry of Interior or the diplomatic or consular mission;
 - j) embossed seal;
 - k) date of issuance;
 - l) expiration term.

Article 15

A residence card shall contain the following information:

- a) first name;
- b) last name;
- c) date of birth (year, month, day);
- d) place of birth;
- e) personal number;
- f) photo stamped by a respective agency of the Ministry of Interior;
- g) signature of the cardholder;
- h) title of the agency issuing the card;
- i) signature of the head of respective agency of the Ministry of Interior;
- j) embossed seal;
- k) date of issuance;
- l) citizenship of the cardholder.

The card shall be valid for the period of 5 years.

Article 16

In order to receive an identification card or to have it replaced a person shall present his birth certificate or other identification document and a photo. If the presented document does not prove citizenship of Georgia, the applicant shall additionally present a document verifying citizenship of Georgia or residence within the territory of Georgia for the term established by law.

Article 17

In order to receive a residence card a person shall present a document verifying citizenship of a foreign country or statelessness, a photo and a document proving lawful residence in Georgia.

Article 18

1. A citizen of Georgia shall replace his identification card upon attaining the age of 25 and 45. An alien residing in Georgia shall replace his residence card upon expiration of the date mentioned in the card.
2. The identification (residence) card shall also be replaced if:
 - a) the person changes his first or last name;
 - b) an error was discovered in the record;
 - c) the card has become useless or has been lost.

Article 19

1. A person whose citizenship of Georgia was terminated shall return his identification card to the respective agency of the Ministry of Interior.
2. An alien or a stateless person who no longer resides in Georgia shall return his residence card to the respective agency of the Ministry of Interior.
3. A late person's identification (residence) card as well as a found identification (residence card) shall be returned to the respective agency of the Ministry of Interior.

Article 20

1. No one shall be deprived of his identification (residence) card except in cases defined by law. Pawning of identification (residence) cards is prohibited.
2. The specimen and size of stamps and forms required for registration and identification shall be elaborated and approved by the Ministry of Interior.

Chapter IV. Concluding Provisions

Article 21

While being registered and given an identification (residence) card, a person shall pay a formal fee in accordance with the law.

Article 22

1. Failure to comply with the requirements under this Law shall give rise to responsibility in accordance with the legislation of Georgia.
2. A person shall not be held responsible for failure to be registered if he notifies the respective agency about the change of his residence and fulfills other requirements under this Law.

*President of Georgia
Eduard Shevardnadze*

*Tbilisi
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