
**United States Department of State
Portsmouth Consular Center**

National Passport Center
31 Rochester Avenue
Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801-2900

1-(877) 487-2778

Date

Name
Address

Dear Mr. Name,

Thank you for your recent passport book and/or card application. We need your help in order to continue processing your request. The Department of State has determined that you are ineligible to receive passport services. This determination is based on Section 51.70(a)(8) of Title 22 of the Code of Federal Regulations and the certification of the Secretary of Health and Human Services that you are in arrears of child support.

◆ Section 51.70(a)(8) reads as follows:

51.70 – Denial of Passports

(a) A passport, except for direct return to the United States, shall not be issued in any case in which:

(8) The applicant has been certified by the Secretary of Health and Human Services as transmitted from a state agency to be in arrears of child support in an amount exceeding \$2,500.00.

Please note that in accordance with Section 7303 of Public Law 109-171, the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, the threshold for denial of passport services was reduced from \$5,000 to \$2,500 on October 1, 2006. *Neither this passport agency nor the Department of State has information concerning your child support obligation.* A list of state child support enforcement agencies and their phone numbers is attached to this letter for your use. Please contact the appropriate office on this list to make payment arrangements.

This decision is not appealable with the Department of State. If you make appropriate arrangements with your state child support agency within 90 days, please notify this Passport Agency in writing or by calling the National Passport Information Center at the number listed below. After you make payment arrangements with your state agency, please allow 5-10 business days before calling the National Passport Information Center (NPIC), so HHS has sufficient time to notify Passport Services. Once the Secretary of Health and Human Services has certified to the Secretary of State that you have satisfied the child support arrearage, your name will be removed from the certified list. Please note that several states have a \$0 balance policy before allowing passport issuance to an individual who was previously in arrearage. All questions regarding such a policy must be addressed to the appropriate state child support agency. The Department of State cannot override this policy.

This application is denied unless you adequately address the requirements stated above for issuance of a passport. If we do not receive a response within ninety (90) days, your application will be filed without further action. Any special return postage will be returned or refunded.

PLEASE RETURN THIS LETTER WITH YOUR REPLY.

To Customer: If you have any questions regarding this letter or your passport application, contact the National Passport Information Center at 1-(877) 487-2778 (TDD/TTY: 1-(888) 874-7793). Customer Service Representatives are available Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., ET, excluding Federal holidays. These hours may be expanded to accommodate increased calls. You may also check the status of an already-submitted application by visiting http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/status_2567.html. For a wealth of passport and travel information, visit us at <http://travel.state.gov>.

Enclosure(s): Agency List