



What are the requirements for the issuance of a Machine Readable Passport ?

For first time passport applicants, the following basic requirements are needed for the issuance of a MRP:

- ✓ Personal appearance
- ✓ Duly accomplished application form
- ✓ Birth Certificate in Security Paper (issued by NSO)
- ✓ Three Colored Photos (royal blue background)
- ✓ Proof of Identity/Supporting Documents

Applicants may be required to submit additional supporting documentation. Contact DFA for more information.

DFA CONSULAR INFORMATION CENTER

556-0000

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How much is the fee for a Machine Readable Passport ?

There has been no change in passport fees. Regular passport processing is P500, while expedited processing is P750.

How long will it take to process my application?

Due to the transition to the new passport system and the increase in passport applications, processing of the MRP will take 14 working days. Expedited issuance can be requested, with your passport released in 7 working days.

FAQs:

Machine Readable Passport



Both the green hand-scripted passport and maroon MRP are valid until their expiry

What is a Machine Readable Passport ?

A Machine Readable Passport (MRP) is a travel document containing data that can be read both by the naked eye and by a machine/passport reader. It replaces hand-scripted passports.

MRPs contain the passport holder's information, including a photograph, with required biographical data printed in a standard format. This information is reflected in an area called the machine readable zone (MRZ).



Pilot testing of the Philippine MRP was launched in June 2007, with full implementation of the new passport system on 17 September 2007.

What are the benefits of a Machine Readable Passport ?

Due to its standard layout and global recognition through the MRZ, information in MRPs can easily be distinguished and read by immigration officials.

This allows passengers to rapidly be identified and processed more quickly at international borders, resulting in less time required for individual inspection.

MRPs also have additional features such as special paper, designs, inks, and laminates, among others, making the travel document more secure in comparison to hand-scripted passports.

Why the change to a Machine Readable Passport ?

In order to accelerate the processing of the increasing number of international travelers at ports of entry and exit, specifications for machine readable travel documents were published by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in 1980.

A United Nations body with 190 Member States including the Philippines, ICAO sets the standards for passports and other travel documents.

In July 2005, the format for MRPs specified by ICAO became the worldwide standard with a deadline of April 2010 for all travel documents to comply.

Where can I get a Machine Readable Passport ?

Only the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) can issue passports.

The issuance of the new Philippine maroon MRP requires a personal appearance at the DFA both for first-time applications and renewal for the purposes of fingerprinting and signature verification.

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