

Persons authorised to witness the rates rebate application form declaration

The categories of people that can witness statutory declarations for rates rebate purposes are described in section 13 of the Rates Rebate Act 1973, section 9 of the Oaths and Declarations Act 1957 and in clause 2 of the Rates Rebate (Witnessing of Declarations) Notice 1977.

The list below describes the categories of persons that are authorised to witness these declarations, current at April 2013:

1. An officer of a territorial authority authorised for the purpose by the authority.
2. A person enrolled as a barrister and solicitor of the High Court.
3. A Justice of the Peace.
4. A notary public.
5. The Registrar or a Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court.
6. The Registrar or a Deputy Registrar of the Court of Appeal.
7. A Registrar or Deputy Registrar of the High Court or a District Court.
8. A member of Parliament.
9. A person who is a fellow of the New Zealand Institute of Legal Executives, and is employed by the holder of a practising certificate as a barrister and solicitor of the High Court.
10. An employee of the New Zealand Transport Agency, authorised to witness declarations (by name, or as the holder for the time being of a specified office or title) by the Minister of Justice by notice in the Gazette.
11. An employee of the Public Trust, authorised to witness declarations (by name, or as the holder for the time being of a specified office or title) by the Minister of Justice by notice in the Gazette.
12. An officer in the service of the Crown, or of a local authority, authorised to witness declarations (by name, or as the holder for the time being of a specified office or title) by the Minister of Justice by notice in the Gazette.
13. A number of Government departments, agencies and non-public service departments have specific officers identified as authorised by the Minister of Justice to have a declaration made before them. Some examples of officers who have been authorised to witness declarations include:
 - a. New Zealand Customs Service officers;
 - b. Ministry for Primary Industries bio-security officers;



- c. all superintendents, regional managers and site managers belonging to the Department of Corrections' Public Prison Service;
 - d. specified ranked officers of the New Zealand Police; and
 - e. specified members of the New Zealand Defence Force.
14. Any person authorised to witness declarations by the Minister of Local Government in the Rates Rebate (Witnessing of Declarations) Notice 1977. These are:
- a. chartered accountants;
 - b. ministers of religion; and
 - c. any officer of the Department of Internal Affairs holding the position of executive officer or any higher position.

Rates Rebate Team
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April 2013