

Did you know there are upcoming changes to the Washington State Notaries? [Senate Bill 5081](#) is Effective July 1, 2018. Below is a summary of the upcoming changes.

- The notary stamp impression must show up on a photo copy.
- The notary stamp should be kept in a locked and secure area.
- Keeping a journal will be mandatory. There are specific requirements and retention limits listed in the new law.
- Notary journals should be kept in a locked and secure area.
- Regulations regarding electronic notarization for real estate documents are being created.
- Identification rules will be expanded. Certain governmental identification is now acceptable if it meets the criteria in the law.
- The notary has the authority to refuse to perform a notarial act under certain conditions.
- Short form certificates will now be included in the law.
- Notaries must be citizens or permanent legal resident of the United States.
- The director may require notaries to pass a course or examination.
- Notaries will no longer be able to notarize for certain family members.

Click on this [link](#) to read more about Senate Bill 5081.