

PDF AND SIGNATURE ACCEPTABILITY BY STATE

This chart outlines PDF acceptability, signature acceptability (including Docusign, Adobe e-signature, and conformed signatures), and signature requirements for each state.

Adobe E-Signature: [Adobe E-Signature Sample](#)

Docusign: [Docusign E-signature Sample](#)

Wet Signatures Clarification:

YES = hard copy original IS required, PDF is NOT acceptable

NO = hard copy original IS NOT required, PDF IS acceptable;

in such case, copies of original signatures are

generally acceptable as well.

Adobe E-Signature Note: If using Adobe E-signature, some jurisdictions require the Audit page. Please include the Audit page or check with the jurisdiction to determine if required.

STATE	Does the state require original wet signatures? See Clarification above. <i>*Please note any exceptions referenced below</i>	Does the state require <u>hard copy original</u> supporting documents?	Does the state allow e-signatures? (Docusign, Adobe e-signature) (Corps, LLCs)	Does the state allow conformed signatures? (ex. /s/ John Smith)
Alabama	No	No	Yes	No
Alaska	No	No	Yes	No
Arizona	No Exceptions: Trade Name Cancellations and County Filings	No	Yes - Docusign No - Adobe Electronic signatures are only accepted if they look similar to an actual, "wet" signature. Please note that electronic signatures also may be rejected if they are not consistent throughout the filing. As an example, the ACC has indicated that a document where one part was signed with a full name ("John Doe") and another part was signed with initials and a last name ("J. Doe") would likely be rejected.	No

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Arkansas	Yes Original "wet" signatures are required for all hard copy filings. Online filings have a signature requirement, but it is completed within the SOS online filing system. Attachments uploaded to the State's website in conjunction with online filings must be signed but do not need wet signatures.	Yes	No	No
California	No	No	Yes <u>BUT ONLY</u> on filings submitted through the Secretary of State's online process. However, online merger filings require original signatures. Otherwise, electronic signatures are not acceptable.	Yes <u>BUT ONLY</u> on filings submitted through the Secretary of State's online process. However, online merger filings require original signatures. Otherwise, conformed signatures are not acceptable.
Colorado	No	No	No Colorado SOS business filings do not require or allow signatures. You must type the name of the individual causing the document to be filed.	No
Connecticut	No	No	Yes	Yes
Delaware	No	No	Yes	Yes
District of Columbia	No	No	Yes All formats of electronic signatures are acceptable, provided that the signer is an authorized person.	No
Florida	No Exception: Nonprofit Corporation filings	No	Yes	Yes Exception: Nonprofit Corporation filings cannot use conformed signatures.
Georgia	No	No	No - Adobe Yes - DocuSign	No
Hawaii	No	No	Yes	No

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Idaho	No	No	Yes	Yes
Illinois	No	Yes	<p>Yes - DocuSign and Adobe-Sign only.</p> <p>Note: If DocuSign is used for signatures, no proof or supporting documents are required if the DocuSign signature is the version that includes the complete certification number visible on top left corner of the filing documents.</p> <p>Alternatively, if the DocuSign verification page is used to verify the signature(s), a separate copy of the verification page is required. Copies of the original verification page are acceptable.</p> <p>Simply typing a name on the line is not acceptable.</p> <p>However, the state will not accept electronic signatures via any other electronic signature method without proof or supporting documents stating that the signature in-fact is valid.</p>	No
Indiana	No	No	Yes	No
Iowa	No	No	No - Adobe Yes - DocuSign	No
Kansas	No	No	Yes	Yes
Kentucky	No	No	Yes	Yes
Louisiana	No	No	No - Adobe Yes - DocuSign If there is more than one electronic signature on a document to be filed, it will be rejected if each signature is not in a different font.	No
Maine	Yes	Yes	No	No
Maryland	No Exception: Annual Reports and Personal Property Returns must have a wet signature if the Report/Return is filed via paper.	No	Yes	Yes

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Massachusetts	No Exception: Wet signatures are only required for filings in paper.	No	Yes Electronic signatures are acceptable for pdf-filed documents.	Yes
Michigan	No	No	Yes	No
Minnesota	No	No	Yes	No
Mississippi	No	No	Yes Mississippi is a mandatory electronic filing state that does not require a signature on filings. However, an attachment with an electronic signature may be uploaded and requires review of the attachment prior to being filed. A document will not be rejected for an electronic signature.	No
Missouri	No	No	Yes	No
Montana	No	No	No	Yes for online filings only. Otherwise, No.
Nebraska	No	No	No - Adobe Yes - DocuSign	Yes
Nevada	No	No	No - Adobe Yes - DocuSign	Yes - Initial Filings No - Subsequent Filings
New Hampshire	No	No	Yes	No
New Jersey	No	No	Yes	Yes, only for online filings. Otherwise, No.
New Mexico	No Exceptions: GP, LP, LLP filings	No	Yes	No
New York	No	No, except raised seals must be visible in scan and may be shaded with a pencil.	Yes	Yes
North Carolina	No	Yes	Yes	No
North Dakota	No	No	Yes	No
Ohio	No	No	Yes	Yes

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Oklahoma	No	No	No - Adobe Yes - DocuSign It must look like a "wet" signature by a natural person.	No
Oregon	No	No	Yes All filings must be executed by signature, which may be electronic. However, the name and capacity of the person signing must appear beneath or opposite of the signature.	Yes
Pennsylvania	No	No	Yes	Yes
Rhode Island	No	No	Yes - DocuSign and Adobe e-signature.	No
South Carolina	No	No	Yes - DocuSign	No
South Dakota	Yes All paper filings must have a wet signature (SOS 3/27/20) SOS will accept PDF signatures during the "Covid Period." (SOS 9/15/20) NOTE* This is a temporary provision based on COVID and it likely will change back to wet signature requirements.	Yes	No	No
Tennessee	No	No	Yes	No
Texas	No	No	Yes	Yes
Utah	No	No	Yes	No
Vermont	No	No	Yes	No
Virginia	No	No	Yes DocuSign signatures are acceptable. Check with VA Fulfillment regarding acceptability of other e-signatures.	No
Washington	No	No, but only for online filings on state's website	Yes The Secretary of State does accept electronic signatures. The Department of Revenue does not accept electronic signatures. This applies to Annual Reports and Trade (Assumed) Name filings.	Yes

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West Virginia	No	No	Yes	No
Wisconsin	No	No	Yes	No
Wyoming	No	Yes, but will accept state issued documents such as PDFs. Original required of documents with colored stamp.	Yes	Yes