



## Amendment of California Nonprofit Corporations

To amend (change, add or delete) provisions contained in the Articles of Incorporation, it is necessary to prepare and file with the California Secretary of State a Certificate of Amendment of Articles of Incorporation in compliance with California Corporations Code sections [5810-5820](#) (public benefit and religious corporations), sections [7810-7820](#) (mutual benefit corporations) or sections [12500-12510](#) (general cooperative corporations).

A sample meeting statutory requirements for most filings is attached. The sample may be used as a guide when preparing documents by making modifications as necessary to meet the specific needs of the amending corporation. Please refer to the above referenced California Corporations Code sections prior to modification.

### Where to File

The Certificate of Amendment can be mailed to Secretary of State, Document Filing Support Unit, 1500 11th Street, 3rd Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814 or delivered in person (drop off) to the Sacramento office. Certificates of Amendment are filed only in the Secretary of State's Sacramento office.

To facilitate the processing of documents mailed to the Secretary of State, a letter referencing the corporate name and number as well as the sender's name, return address and telephone number should be included with the submittal.

Go to [www.sos.ca.gov/business-programs/business-entities/processing-times](http://www.sos.ca.gov/business-programs/business-entities/processing-times) to get the current processing times and determine which method of submission meets your needs.

### Fees

The fee for filing a Certificate of Amendment is \$30.00. In addition to the filing fee, there is a non-refundable \$15.00 special handling fee for processing documents delivered in person (drop off) at the Sacramento office. The preclearance and/or expedited filing of a document *within a guaranteed time frame* can be requested for an additional non-refundable fee in lieu of the special handling fee. For detailed information about preclearance and expedited filing services, go to [www.sos.ca.gov/business-programs/business-entities/service-options](http://www.sos.ca.gov/business-programs/business-entities/service-options). Payment for special handling or preclearance and expedited filing services should be made in a separate check. These services are not applicable to documents submitted by mail. Check(s) should be made payable to the Secretary of State.

### Copies

Upon filing, we will return one (1) uncertified copy of your filed document for free, and will certify the copy upon request and payment of a \$5.00 certification fee at the time of submission. To get additional copies, include a separate request and payment for copy fees when the document is submitted. Copy fees are \$1.00 for the first page and \$.50 for each additional page. For certified copies, there is an additional \$5.00 certification fee, per copy.

# Amendment of California Nonprofit Corporations

## Instructions

The attached sample can be used as a guide when drafting a Certificate of Amendment. The certificate should be typed following the instructions set forth below.

Certificates of Amendment are most often made by the president and secretary of the corporation and for that reason the sample has been formatted using those officers. If the document will be signed by officers other than the President and Secretary, or if the sample does not adequately cover the needs of the corporation, documents must be prepared with modifications to meet the specific requirements of the corporation. Please refer to California Corporations Code sections [5810-5820](#) (public benefit and religious corporations), sections [7810-7820](#) (mutual benefit corporations) or sections [12500-12510](#) (general cooperative corporations) prior to modification.

**Note:** The California Corporations Code prohibits any amendment of Articles of Incorporation altering the statement of the name and address of the corporation's initial agent for service of process, and if listed in the original Articles of Incorporation, the corporation's initial street address and/or mailing address. To update our records to show the current information, you must file a Statement of Information (Form SI-100) as required by California Corporations Code section [6210](#) (public benefit corporations), section [8210](#) (mutual benefit corporations), section [9660](#) (religious corporations) or section [12570](#) (general cooperative corporations). To get Form SI-100, go to [www.sos.ca.gov/business-programs/business-entities/statements](http://www.sos.ca.gov/business-programs/business-entities/statements).

- **Paragraph 1** - must be set forth the current name of the corporation **exactly** as the name is of record with the Secretary of State (including punctuation and abbreviations).
- **Paragraph 2** - must identify the specific provision being amended by the numerical or other designation assigned to the provision in the original articles, (i.e., "I", "FIRST" or "ONE"). If the article provision was not assigned a designation, the present language of the existing provision must be quoted.

The paragraph must also include the language that will replace the language presently of record. Note, if the purpose of the amendment is to change the name of the corporation, the words "The name of the corporation is" must precede the proposed new name.

- **Paragraph 3** - must state the amendment has been approved by the board of directors.
- **Paragraph 4** - must state the amendment has been approved by the required vote of the members. If the corporation has no members separate from the board of directors, member approval is not required. However, the certificate must state **the corporation has no members**.

DO NOT include both #4 paragraphs when preparing the certificate. Use ONLY the applicable statement.

- The certificate must be dated, signed and verified by the president and secretary. Each person's name and title should be typed directly below their respective signature.

Except for the purpose of filing an application with the [California Franchise Tax Board](#) for exempt status or amending the articles of incorporation as necessary either to perfect that application or to set forth a new name, a Certificate of Amendment can only be filed if the corporation has an active status on the records of the California Secretary of State. (California Corporations Code section [5008.6](#).) Please check the corporation's records and status before submitting documents for filing with our office. The status of the entity can be checked online on the California Secretary of State's Business Search at [BusinessSearch.sos.ca.gov](http://BusinessSearch.sos.ca.gov).



# Mail Submission Cover Sheet

**Instructions:**

- Complete and include this form with your submission. **This information only will be used to communicate with you in writing about the submission.** This form will be treated as correspondence and will not be made part of the filed document.
- Make all **checks or money orders** payable to the Secretary of State.
- Do not include a \$15 counter fee when submitting documents by mail.
- Standard processing time for **submissions** to this office is approximately 5 business days from receipt. All **submissions** are reviewed in the date order of receipt. For updated processing time information, visit [www.sos.ca.gov/business/be/processing-times](http://www.sos.ca.gov/business/be/processing-times).

**Optional Copy and Certification Fees:**

- If applicable, include optional copy and certification fees with your submission.
- For applicable copy and certification fee information, refer to the instructions of the specific form you are submitting.

**Contact Person:** (Please type or print legibly)

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**Entity Information:** (Please type or print legibly)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Entity Number (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Return Address:** For written communication from the Secretary of State related to this document, or if purchasing a copy of the filed document enter the name of a person or company and the mailing address.

Name: [ \_\_\_\_\_ ]

Company:

Address:

City/State/Zip: [ \_\_\_\_\_ ]

Secretary of State Use Only	
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**Certificate of Amendment  
of Articles of Incorporation**

The undersigned certify that:

- 1. They are the **president** and the **secretary**, respectively, of  (NAME OF CORPORATION) , a California corporation.
- 2. Article  (INSERT CORRECT DESIGNATION)  of the Articles of Incorporation of this corporation is amended to read as follows:

(HERE TYPE THE ARTICLE PROVISION AS AMENDED)

- 3. The foregoing amendment of Articles of Incorporation has been duly approved by the board of directors.
- 4. The foregoing amendment of Articles of Incorporation has been duly approved by the required vote of the members.

**OR**

- 4. The corporation has no members.

**NOTE**  
Use only one of the #4 statements  
  
DO **NOT** USE BOTH STATEMENTS

We further declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the matters set forth in this certificate are true and correct of our own knowledge.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature of President)   
(Typed Name of President), President

(Signature of Secretary)   
(Typed Name of Secretary), Secretary