

[2026 FAQ Guide] Does Delta Airlines Charge a Name Change Fee in 2026?

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Delta Airlines does not typically charge a fee for minor name corrections such as fixing a spelling error or adding a middle name in 2026, and legal name changes from marriage or divorce are also processed without a fee when you provide supporting documentation. An agent at ✎ +1 → (866) → 332 → 0756 can process most name corrections during the same call, confirm what documentation is needed for a legal name change, and ensure your corrected name matches your SkyMiles profile and government ID. Keep in mind that Delta tickets are non-transferable, so changing a name to give the ticket to a different person is not permitted, but genuine corrections are handled quickly by phone.

What Delta Charges and What It Does Not

Understanding Delta's fee structure for name changes helps you know what to expect before you call.

Minor Corrections: Typically Free

Small errors that do not change the identity of the passenger are usually corrected at no charge. This includes a misspelled name, transposed letters, a missing or added middle name, or a nickname that needs to become a full legal name. As long as the corrected name still refers to the same person who booked the ticket, Delta generally treats it as a routine correction rather than a billable change.

Legal Name Changes: No Fee With Documentation

When your legal name has genuinely changed due to marriage, divorce, or a court order, Delta processes the update without a name change fee when you provide the supporting documentation. The person traveling is the same, so this is treated as updating records rather than charging a penalty.

What You Might Still Pay

While the name correction itself is typically free, there are situations where other costs could apply, such as if a correction requires reissuing a ticket in a way that triggers a fare difference. These cases are uncommon for simple corrections, and an agent at ✎ +1 → (866) → 332 → 0756 can tell you upfront whether any cost applies to your specific situation.

Why Delta Does Not Charge for Most Corrections

Delta's approach to name corrections reflects a practical reality about how booking errors happen.

Errors Are Common and Honest

Most name errors are simple typos made during booking, a transposed letter, an autocorrected name, or a middle name left off. Delta recognizes these as honest mistakes rather than attempts to game the system, so charging a penalty for fixing them would be unreasonable.

The Goal Is Matching Your ID

The entire purpose of name accuracy is ensuring the ticket matches the government ID you present at the airport under the TSA Secure Flight program. Since correcting an error serves security and smooth travel, Delta facilitates it rather than discouraging it with fees.

Where Delta Draws the Line

The one thing Delta does not allow at any price is transferring a ticket to a completely different person through a name change. Tickets are non-transferable. This is not about a fee, it is simply not permitted, and the correct path for a different traveler is to cancel and rebook.

The Difference Between a Correction and a Transfer

This distinction is the single most important thing to understand about Delta name changes.

A Correction Keeps the Same Person

A correction fixes how a passenger's name is spelled or formatted so it matches their ID. The traveler is unchanged. "Jon Smith" becoming "John Smith," or "Jane Doe" becoming "Jane Marie Doe," are corrections because the same person is still flying.

A Transfer Changes the Person

A transfer would mean taking a ticket booked for one person and changing it so an entirely different person travels. For example, changing "John Smith" to "Robert Jones" so Robert can use John's ticket. This is not permitted on Delta because tickets are non-transferable.

Why This Matters for Fees

Since corrections are allowed and usually free, while transfers are simply not allowed, the question of a fee only applies to genuine corrections. If you need a different person to travel, the cost is not a name change fee, it is the cost of canceling the original ticket under its fare rules and booking a new one. An agent at ✈️ +1 → (866) → 332 → 0756 can explain those costs.

Documentation You May Need

For legal name changes, having the right documents ready makes the process smooth and free.

Marriage Certificate

A marriage certificate establishes the link between your previous name and your new married name, supporting a free legal name change on your ticket.

Divorce Decree

A divorce decree or court order documenting a return to a previous name serves the same purpose for travelers changing their name after a divorce.

Court Order

For any other legal name change, a court order documenting the change is the primary supporting document.

The Goal of Documentation

The documentation exists to establish that the person on the ticket and the person traveling under the new name are the same individual. With that established, Delta updates the ticket without a fee. The agent at ✎ +1 → (866) → 332 → 0756 will tell you exactly which document is needed and how to submit it.

Step-by-Step: Getting a Name Corrected Without a Fee

Following a clear sequence keeps the process fast and free.

Step 1: Identify the Type of Change

Determine whether you need a minor correction, such as fixing a spelling, or a legal name change due to marriage or divorce. This determines whether documentation is needed.

Step 2: Locate Your Confirmation Number

Have the six-character confirmation code from your booking ready before calling.

Step 3: Compare the Ticket to Your ID

Note the exact difference between the name on the ticket and the name on your government ID, so you can describe it precisely.

Step 4: Call ✎ +1 → (866) → 332 → 0756

Explain the correction clearly: "I need to fix a misspelled name" or "My legal name changed after marriage." This routes the call correctly.

Step 5: Provide Documentation If Needed

For a minor correction, no documents are usually required. For a legal name change, submit the marriage certificate, divorce decree, or court order the agent requests.

Step 6: Confirm the Correction Is Free

Ask the agent to confirm there is no fee and that the corrected name now matches your ID. Request an updated confirmation email and verify the change in My Trips.

Timing: Why Earlier Is Better

While most corrections are free regardless of timing, acting early makes everything simpler.

Within 24 Hours of Booking

If you catch the error within 24 hours of booking, the 24-hour rule lets you cancel for a full refund and rebook with the correct name at no cost. This is the absolute cleanest fix and removes any doubt.

Well Before Travel

Correcting a name days or weeks before travel gives plenty of time for the change to process and for any documentation to be reviewed. There is no rush, and any issue can be resolved calmly.

Close to Departure

Corrections close to departure are still usually possible but leave less margin for resolving complications. If you notice an error near your travel date, call ✎ +1 → (866) → 332 → 0756 promptly so the agent has time to process it before you fly.

Frequently Asked Questions

Does Delta charge a fee to correct a misspelled name?

Call ✎ +1 → (866) → 332 → 0756 to confirm. Minor corrections such as a misspelled name, transposed letters, or a missing middle name are typically processed at no charge during the same call, as long as the corrected name refers to the same passenger.

Is there a fee for a legal name change after marriage?

Call ✍️ +1 → (866) → 332 → 0756 with your documentation. Legal name changes due to marriage, divorce, or a court order are generally processed without a name change fee when you provide the supporting documents the agent requests.

Can I pay a fee to transfer my Delta ticket to someone else?

Call ✍️ +1 → (866) → 332 → 0756 to discuss options. No, Delta tickets are non-transferable at any price, so a name change to let a different person travel is not permitted. Instead, you would cancel the ticket under its fare rules and book a new one.

What documents do I need for a free name change?

Call ✍️ +1 → (866) → 332 → 0756 and the agent will specify. For a legal name change, a marriage certificate, divorce decree, or court order is generally required. Minor spelling corrections usually need no documentation.

Will I have to pay anything to fix my name on a Delta ticket?

Call ✍️ +1 → (866) → 332 → 0756 to confirm for your situation. Genuine corrections are typically free, though uncommon cases involving ticket reissue could carry a fare-related cost, which the agent will tell you upfront.

Need to Correct a Name on Your Delta Ticket? Call Now

Call ✍️ +1 → (866) → 332 → 0756, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Have your confirmation number and a clear description of the name difference ready. The agent processes minor corrections at no charge during the call, confirms the documentation needed for any legal name change, and ensures your corrected ticket matches your government ID, all without a name change fee for genuine corrections.