

GRATIS PASSPORTS FOR APPLICANTS OVER 75 YEARS OLD

On 19 May 2004 the Home Secretary announced that all British passport holders over the age of 75 shall be issued gratis passports. The scheme begins on Monday 18 October 2004 and extends to applicants overseas. All applicants ***born before 2 September 1929*** are eligible for gratis passports under this scheme.

How to get a gratis passport?

You should write or telephone the Consular Section in Brussels (details below) and ask for a "veteran's passport application form".

Consular Section
British Embassy
rue d'Arlon/Aarlenstraat 85
1040 Brussels
Tel: 02/287 6248
02/287 6231
02/287 6232

The completed form should be returned to the Consular Section with your old passport and two recent photographs.

The Consular Section will send your application to the UK Passport Service in Liverpool to be processed. Once your new passport is returned to Brussels, the Consular Section will inform you so that you can come and collect the new passport. We will then cancel your old passport. If you have paid for return registered mail, then your new passport will be posted, together with your old cancelled one.

What if you have already applied and paid for a new passport?

If you were born before 2 September 1929 and have been issued with and paid for a new passport since 19 May 2004 you are eligible for a refund. Please write to the Consular Section enclosing a copy of your receipt, if possible, and mentioning your full name, your date of birth and your bank account number. We will refund the passport fee by bank transfer.