Certifying Documents

To have a document certified, an individual must take the original and a photocopy to an authorised person. The authorised person must write on every page of the copy document “I have sighted the original document and certify this to be a true copy of the original”, sign each statement and provide their designation, for example “Pharmacist”.

List of persons authorised to certify copies of original documents

Authorised persons include:

- a justice of the peace or a bail justice
- a public notary
- an Australian lawyer (within the meaning of the Legal Profession Act 2004)
- a clerk to an Australian lawyer
- the prothonotary or a deputy prothonotary of the Supreme Court, the registrar or the deputy registrar of the County Court, the principal registrar of the Magistrates’ Court or the registrar or the deputy registrar of the Magistrates’ Court
- the registrar of probates and the assistant registrar of probates
- the associate to a judge of the Supreme Court or of the County Court
- the secretary of a master of the Supreme Court or of the County Court
- a person registered as a patent attorney under Chapter 20 of the Patents Act 1990 of the Commonwealth
- a member of the police force
- the sheriff or deputy sheriff
- a member or a former member of either House of the Parliament of Victoria
- a member or a former member of either House of the Parliament of the Commonwealth
- a councillor of a municipality
- a senior officer of a council as defined in the Local Government Act 1989
- a registered medical practitioner within the meaning of the Medical Practice Act 1994
- a registered dentist within the meaning of the Dental Practice Act 1999
- a veterinary practitioner
- a pharmacist
- a principal in the (State) teaching service
- the manager of a bank
- a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia or CPA or the National Institute of Accountants
- the secretary of a building society
- a minister of religion authorised to celebrate marriages (not a civil celebrant)
- a person employed under Part 3 of the Public Administration Act 2004 with a classification that is prescribed as a classification for statutory declarations, or who holds office in a statutory authority with such a classification
- a fellow of the Institute of Legal Executives (Victoria)

Source: Victorian Department of Justice