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Country Information Library: Cameroon

 INTERNAL USE ONLY – ATIP EXEMPTIONS MAY APPLY

 **NOTE:** Please use the information below with discretion as it may be out of date.

- Place of residence
- Height
- Sex
- Serial number and Identity card number
- Date of issue and Expiry
- Photograph
- Fingerprint
- There are two types of ID card:
 - A paper version where the photo is printed on the paper and then laminated.
 - A smaller “credit card” version where the photo is printed directly on polymer.

Voter card

- In 2013, a biometric elector’s card (*carte électorale biométrique*) began issuance by ELECAM (Elections Cameroon). These cards are permanent (no expiration date).
- Contains additional information (not listed on the ID card), including registration number (number in the electoral register), Council area, Polling station, and Barcode.

▼ Civil documents

Note: French and English are the official languages of Cameroon. Consequently, the various administrations have both French and English names.

Birth certificates (*Acte de Naissance*)

- Issued by the office of Mayor (*la Mairie*), Civil Status Center (*Centre D’État Civil*), or Special Center (*Centre spécial*) at the person's place of birth.

Marriage certificates (*Acte de Mariage*)

- Issued by the Office of the Mayor (*la Mairie*) of the town in which the marriage took place (place or residence or place of birth of one of the fiancée), usually within 1 month after publication of bans.

Divorce decree (*Jugement de Divorce ou Grosse*)

- Issued by the Chief Court Clerk (*Greffier en chef*) of the *Tribunal de première instance* or *Tribunal du 1er degré* at the place where the divorce was granted.

Death certificates

- Death certificates include:
 - Date and place of death.
 - Full name, age, sex, marital status, occupation and residence of the deceased.
 - Full name, occupation and residence of the father and mother.
 - Full name, occupation and residence of the person making the declaration.
 - Full name, occupation and residence of the witnesses.

- Declaration of death must be made within one month, by the head of the family, a relative of the deceased, or by any person who has had full knowledge of the death. Medical institutions or prisons must declare death within fifteen days.

▼ Notarized documents

- Most documents are legalised by the Police rather than a Notary Public due to the cost involved. Such documents have equal value.
- Deeds are written without blank spaces, except for normal intervals between paragraphs and subparagraphs, and those necessitated by the use of reproduction.
- The deed contains:
 - Serial number, data and nature of the act.
 - Full name and residences of the parties.
 - Registration statement to document the back.
 - Names and place of residence of the notary.
 - Signature of witnesses and the notary.

▼ Military record (*Certificat de Position Militaire*)

- Records of male Cameroonians who have completed military service are issued by the *Bureau de Recrutement* of the Gendarmery or the Army, depending upon which group the applicant served in Yaounde.

▼ Police certificate

- For more Police Certificate information and examples, please visit the [Police Certificate Image Library](#).

▼ Education documents

- Individual schools issue their own transcripts and diplomas. There is no prescribed format but most institutions provide pre-printed formats with the student details and results entered by hand or word processor. Schools are generally not open to verification requests and can be contacted directly.
 - DAKAR has attempted to verify various school documents by email without success. Unfortunately, there is no empirical evidence as to the reliability of