



Obtaining a copy of a Birth Certificate in Texas

To request a copy of a birth certificate, you must be the person named on the certificate, his/her legal representative, or immediate family member.

Immediate family members include the person's child, parent/guardian, brother/sister, grandparent, or spouse.

Acceptable Identification

You must present acceptable identification (ID)*.

Most Common IDs*

- Driver's License from a U.S. state
- Federal or state ID card
- Military ID card
- U.S. passport

Most Common Foreign IDs*

- El Salvadoran consular certification
- El Salvadoran Unique Identity Card (DUI)
- Honduran consular certification
- Mexican voter registration card

** Foreign IDs require additional ID. Details and full list of acceptable IDs below. DSHS follows the requirements outlined in the settlement agreement related to Serna et al. v. Texas Department of State Health Services.*

Application and Payment

You must complete the application, with no cross outs, no white out, and no correction tape and sign the application in front of a notary.

Be sure to provide an accepted form of payment, typically a check or money order.

Full list of Acceptable Identification

Vital Statistics accepts the following form(s) of identification:

Provide ONE (1) from GROUP A; **OR** If you do not have one from Group A, provide TWO (2) from GROUP B; **OR** If you do not have one from Group A or two from Group B, provide ONE (1) from GROUP B and TWO (2) from GROUP C.

Group A – PRIMARY ACCEPTABLE ID

Please provide ONE (1) from GROUP A:

- Driver's license from a U.S. state
- Federal or state ID
- Military ID
- U.S. passport
- License to Carry a Handgun
- Pilot's license
- Law enforcement employment ID (federal, state, or city)
- Offender ID issued by the Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice or an ID from a federal or U.S. state correctional facility or institution
- Dept. of Homeland Security, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) issued:
 - Employment Authorization Document (EAD)
 - Permanent Resident Card (Green Card)
- Travel documents:
 - Re-entry permit
 - Refugee travel document
 - Advance parole
- SENTRI card
- U.S. citizen ID
- U.S. Dept. of State issued:
 - Border Crossing Card (BCC) - B1 for business or pleasure or B2 medical purposes
 - Visa

Group B – SECONDARY ID

If you do not have one from Group A, please provide TWO (2) from GROUP B:

- Current student ID
- Any Primary Acceptable ID from Group A that is expired
- Signed Social Security card or Numident
- DD Form 214 Certificate of Release
- Medicaid or Medicare card
- Veterans Affairs card
- Medical insurance card
- Foreign passport accompanied by a visa issued by the U.S. Dept. of State
- Foreign passport in accordance with the U.S. Dept. of State, Visa Waiver Program
- Certified birth certificate from the U.S. Dept. of State (FS-240, DS-1350, or FS-545)
- Private company employment ID
- Form I-94, accompanied by the applicant's visa or vassport
- Mexican voter registration card
- Foreign ID with identifiable photo of applicant (including El Salvador consular certification, El Salvadoran Unique Identity Card [DUI], and Honduran consular certification)

Contact Texas Vital Statistics

Have questions?

Contact DSHS Vital Statistics
in Austin at:

1-888-963-7111

registrar@dshs.texas.gov

Order Online

For fastest, easiest service,
order copies of birth
certificates online at:

dshs.texas.gov/order

Group C – SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

If you do not have one from Group A or two from Group B, provide ONE (1) from GROUP B and TWO (2) from GROUP C:

- Recent utility bill or cell phone bill with current address
- Recent paycheck stub
- Any Secondary Acceptable ID from Group B that is expired
- Public assistance applications or letters
- Signed valid voter's registration card
- Police report of stolen identification
- Official school transcript
- Bank account statement
- Social Security letter
- Marriage license or divorce decree
- Certified birth certificate from a state other than Texas, District of Columbia, or other country
- Automobile insurance card or contract
- Lease agreement
- Loan or installment payment contract
- Promissory note or loan contract
- Court order
- Property title or lien
- Automobile title or registration
- Library card
- Fishing or hunting license
- Recent medical record or bill
- Religious record with signature of officiant
- Recent rent receipt with address and name
- Federal, state, or local tax records
- U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security notice or correspondence