

WHO CAN OBTAIN A CERTIFIED OR NON-CERTIFIED COPY OF A VITAL RECORD - Effective July 12, 2010:

Purchaser of the record must have a "direct and legitimate interest in the matter recorded" - MRSA Title 22, Section 2706

<u>Type of Record</u> (MRSA, Title 22, Section 2706 "Disclosure of vital records", subsecs. 5 and 8)	Self	Spouse - must show marriage license*	Registered Domestic Partner - must show DP certificate	Parent(s)	Guardian - must show court issued guardian- ship papers	Descendant of person listed on the record - their child, grandchild - must show lineage	Attorney or Agent of person on record - must show notarized statement from person or his/her family	Family: Grandparent, Sibling, Step-parent, Step- child, Aunt, Uncle, Niece, Nephew, Cousin, Mother- in-law, Father-in-law	Non-Family: Boyfriend, Girlfriend, Fiancé, Friend, Neighbor, Ex-spouse	Genealogists With no direct and legitimate interest, must show Maine CDC/ODRVS researcher card	Genealogists/ Agent - Must show personal ID, Maine CDC/ODRVS researcher card, have direct and legitimate interest as agent
Birth Certificate - includes both legitimate and out of wedlock births	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes – if listed on record	Yes	Yes	Yes	No**	No**	No	Yes
Marriage Certificate	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes – if listed on record	Yes	Yes	Yes	No**	No**	No	Yes
Death Certificate - long form and short form	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes – if listed on record	Yes	Yes	Yes	No**	No**	No	Yes
Non-Certified Copy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes – if listed on record	Yes	Yes	Yes	No**	No**	Yes	Yes

* A person must show a copy of a marriage license to obtain a copy of their current spouse's birth certificate and copies of their spouse's marriage certificate from a previous marriage. The spouse does not have to show a copy of their marriage license if they are purchasing a copy of a marriage license in which they are listed on the record or a copy of their spouse's death certificate in which they are listed as the spouse on the record.

**Individual may have access to a certified or a non-certified copy of a record if they show direct and legitimate interest and are able to provide proof.

Descendants (State Definition) - Descendants mean those persons who are the issue of an individual including, but not by way of limitation, the children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren to the most remote degree. Descendants are those persons related by birth in a descending line of birth from an individual. (Defined in DHHS Rules 1-146, Chapter 8)

Identification Requirement - Anyone purchasing a certified copy of a record as listed above shall complete a vital records order form which shall declare their name and their connection with the person who is listed on the record. Anyone purchasing a certified copy as listed above shall also show proof of identification: driver's license, passport or other government issued picture identification card. If these are not available, then the requestor needs to show photocopies of two items from the following: utility bills, bank statements, car registration, copy of income tax return, personal check with address, a previously issued vital record/marriage license, letter from gov't agency requesting vital record (eg DHHS, WIC), Dept of Corrections ID card, Social Security card, DD214 form, hospital birth worksheet, license/rental agreement, pay stub or W-2, voter registration card, Medicare/Mainecare insurance card, private or public school photo ID, college photo ID, employee photo ID, or a disability award from SSA. These identification requirements apply to both certified and non-certified copies of vital records. (ODRVS letter, 6-25-10)

Records over 100 years old - Anyone may purchase informational (non-certified) copies of any birth, marriage or death record that is 100 years old or older, from the date of the event (date of birth, marriage or death). (MRSA Title 22, Section 2706, sub 7)

Matrix created by MTC/CA, 6-30-10

New Vital Records Law Goes Into Effect

On July 12th, a new law preventing fraudulent use of vital records goes into effect. Vital records include birth certificates, fetal death and death certificates, marriage certificates, and domestic partner registrations. Maine's new law will require a person requesting a copy of records less than 100 years old to provide documentation establishing their direct and legitimate interest in the records.

Until now, Maine has been one of just a handful of states that have allowed anyone, including individuals with bad intentions and for profit entities, access to these records. Information from vital records will become completely open to the public 100 years from the date of the event.

Individuals who may access vital records less than 100 years old include:

- The person named on the record;
- The person's spouse or registered domestic partner;
- The parent(s) named on the record;
- Descendants of the person named on the record;
- Registrant's legal custodian, guardian, or conservator or respective authorized representative (includes attorney, physician, or funeral director); and
- Genealogists who have a Maine CDC issued researcher identification card.

Proof of identity must also be presented to the municipal and city clerks or state Vital Records Office staff. A brief application for securing a copy of the vital record must be filled out and presented, along with positive identification such as a driver's license, passport, or other government issued picture identification that clearly shows that the person requesting the record is who they say they are. Identification requirements apply whether the records are requested in person or by mail.

More information on this issue may be found at www.mainepublichealth.gov.

Birth Certificate

Name on birth record: _____

Date of Birth: _____

How many copies? _____

Parents Names (with mother's maiden):

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Address: _____

Indicate your Relationship to the person on
requested record below:

- ☐ Self
- ☐ Spouse
- ☐ Registered Domestic Partner
- ☐ Parent
- ☐ Guardian
- ☐ Descendant
- ☐ Attorney of person on record
- ☐ Genealogist ID # _____

*By signing below, I swear/affirm that the information above is
true and correct.*

Applicant Signature: _____

Today's Date: _____

Death Certificate

Full Name of Decedent: _____

Date of Death: _____

How many copies? _____

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Address: _____

Indicate your Relationship to the person on
requested record below:

- ☐ Spouse
- ☐ Registered Domestic Partner
- ☐ Parent
- ☐ Guardian
- ☐ Descendant
- ☐ Attorney of person on record
- ☐ Genealogist ID # _____
- ☐ None of the above (short form
will be issued)

*By signing below, I swear/affirm that the information above is
true and correct.*

Applicant Signature: _____

Today's Date: _____

Marriage License

Full Maiden Name of Bride: _____

Full Name of Groom: _____

Date of Marriage: _____

How many copies? _____

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Address: _____

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requested record below:

- ☐ Self/Spouse
- ☐ Parent
- ☐ Guardian
- ☐ Descendant
- ☐ Attorney of person on record
- ☐ Genealogist ID # _____

*By signing below, I swear/affirm that the information above is
true and correct.*

Applicant Signature: _____

Proof of identity of applicant:

Applicant must provide one of these:

- ☐ Driver's License
- ☐ Passport
- ☐ Government issued picture I.D.

OR two of these:

- ☐ Utility bills
- ☐ Bank statements
- ☐ Vehicle registration
- ☐ Income tax return
- ☐ Personal Check w/ address
- ☐ A previously issued vital record
- ☐ Letter from government agency requesting record (DHHS, WIC)
- ☐ Department of Corrections I.D. card
- ☐ Social Security Card
- ☐ DD 214
- ☐ Hospital; birth worksheet
- ☐ License/rental agreement
- ☐ Pay stub
- ☐ W-2
- ☐ Voter Registration card
- ☐ Disability award from SSA
- ☐ Other _____

Establishing eligibility to acquire record:

- ☐ Related applicants must provide proof of lineage.
- ☐ Domestic Partners must provide proof of registration of domestic partnership
- ☐ Attorneys must provide a signed, notarized release from family
- ☐ Genealogists must provide a state-issued card

Do not retain copies of proof provided or note any specific numbers

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