

Delayed Birth Registration Practices



Vital Registration Areas
of the United States

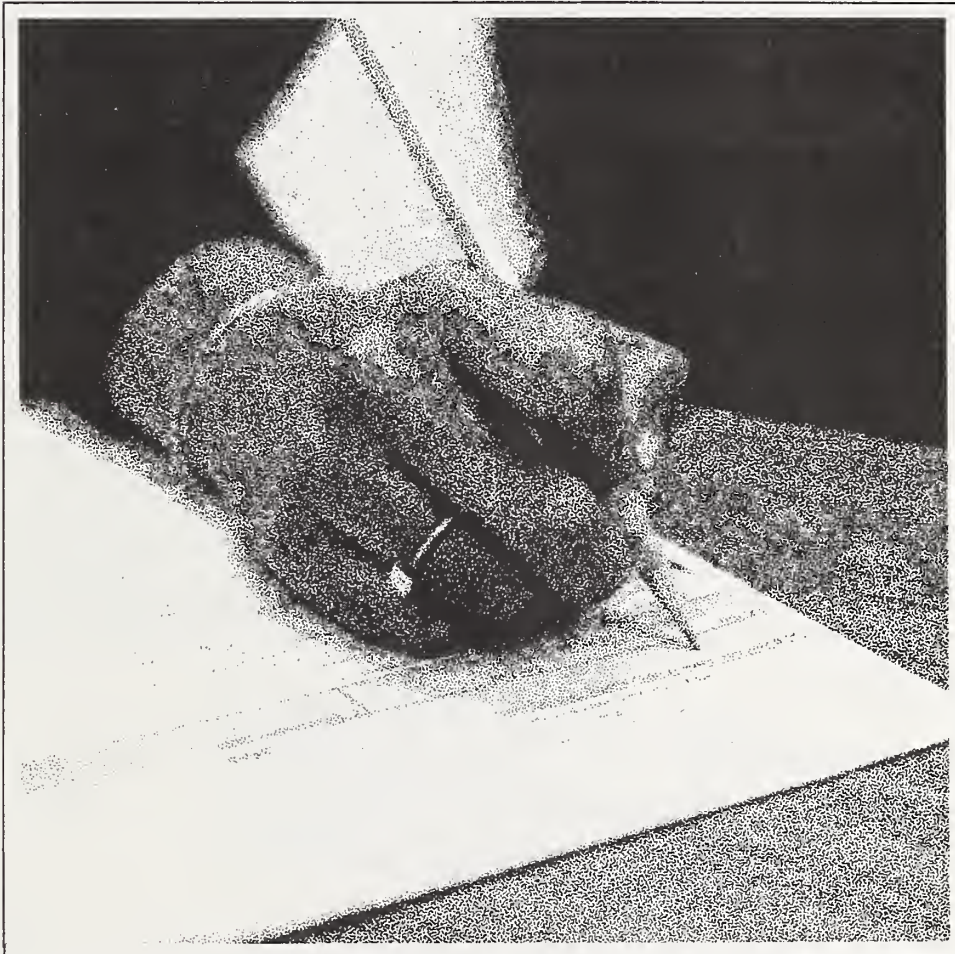
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • Public Health Service • Office of Health Research, Statistics, and Technology • National Center for Health Statistics



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Public Health Service
Office of Health Research, Statistics, and Technology
National Center for Health Statistics

Hyattsville, Maryland
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Preface

This publication is intended to promote uniform practices in filing delayed birth certificates in the vital registration areas of the United States.

The information contained in these tables will aid the States in evaluating their own procedures by comparing them with other States. It will also help those Federal agencies having need for such information.

The first recommended procedures for the registration of delayed birth certificates were developed by a committee of the American Association of Registration Executives in 1941. These procedures were presented to each State for review and were accepted in principle by every State. Since 1941 these recommended procedures have been reviewed and revised several times, making the requirements more stringent. The most recent review was by the Technical Consultant Panel, which drafted the 1977 revision of the Model State Vital Statistics Act and Model State Vital Statistics Regulations. The basic principles of the 1941 recommendations remain unchanged.

Although all States accepted the 1941 recommendations, they did not all put the recommended procedures into effect. A uniform system of delayed birth registration has not yet been achieved in this country. It is hoped that by using this publication as a source of comparison, the States will reexamine their procedures with the object of obtaining uniformity, such as that recommended by the Model State Vital Statistics Act and Model State Vital Statistics Regulations. If a more uniform system can be achieved, delayed certificates will become more acceptable as proof of birth facts and more valuable to those in the general public who must file delayed certificates.

In 1954, at the request of the Public Health Conference on Records and Statistics, the National Office of Vital Statistics compiled and published the Digest of State Practices in Delayed Birth Registration. The Digest was revised in 1972. This is the second revision of that publication. The information provided is in a simplified format for quick review and comparison.

Any correspondence concerning this publication may be addressed to

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Proving Age and Other Birth Facts

When it becomes necessary for a person to prove birth facts to another individual or agency, there are a number of steps to be taken. The first is to contact the appropriate office in the State where birth occurred to determine whether a birth record is on file. If it is, a properly certified copy of this record would normally be all the proof necessary.

Those persons not having a birth record on file should take the statement from the State of birth indicating there is no record on file and ask the person or agency requesting the information what other documents would be acceptable. Documents that are frequently acceptable in lieu of a birth certificate include the following: U. S. census record, baptismal or other church record, early school record, military record, hospital or physician record, or an affidavit from someone who has personal knowledge of the facts of birth.

For many individuals it may also be advantageous to file a delayed birth certificate. This would be the case primarily for those persons who are likely to need to prove birth facts again during their lifetime.

The summary tables included here (tables 1-4) provide information on the requirements for filing delayed birth certificates in each of the registration areas of the United States. These tables include information on the fees charged, the documentary evidence required to prove birth facts, the facts that must be proven, where the application is to be filed, and other requirements regarding the application. More detailed information on the proper procedures to follow may be obtained by writing to the appropriate office in the State of birth, the address of which can be found in the first table.

Summary Tables

Table 1 shows the fee charged by each registration area to search and determine whether a birth record is on file. If a record is found, a certified copy is issued. If no record is found, the States will issue a "No Record" statement and most of them will keep the fee that was submitted.

The fee shown in the third column is the statutory fee charged to file a delayed birth registration. If a person has already submitted a fee for a search of the files to see whether there is a birth record on file, some States will credit that amount toward the fee for filing a delayed registration if the request is made within a reasonable time. In other States the fees are independent of each other. The applicant will be informed about the proper fee to be submitted as well as any other documentation necessary to complete the filing of a delayed birth registration.

The fees listed were in effect at the time of publication. They are, however, subject to change. Current fee information is available from the office listed for each State.

Table 1. Fees

Area	For a search of the files to determine no record is on file	For filing a delayed registration	Address
Alabama	\$5.00	\$8.00	Bureau of Vital Statistics State Department of Public Health Montgomery, Ala. 36130
Alaska	3.00	3.00	Bureau of Vital Statistics Department of Health and Social Services, Pouch "H" Juneau, Alaska 99811
Arizona	3.00	5.00	Vital Records Section State Department of Health Services P. O. Box 3887 Phoenix, Ariz. 85030
Arkansas	2.00	2.50	State Department of Health Division of Vital Records 4815 West Markham Street Little Rock, Ark. 72201
California	3.00	11.00	Bureau of Vital Statistics State Department of Health Services 410 "N" Street Sacramento, Calif. 95814

Table 1. Fees — Con.

Area	For a search of the files to determine no record is on file	For filing a delayed registration	Address
Colorado	2.00	No charge	Records and Statistics Section Colorado Department of Health 4210 East 11th Avenue Denver, Colo. 80220
Connecticut	2.00	No charge	Vital Records Section State Department of Health 79 Elm Street Hartford, Conn. 06115
Delaware	2.50	No charge	Bureau of Vital Statistics Division of Public Health Jesse S. Cooper Building Dover, Del. 19901
District of Columbia	3.00	10.00	Vital Records Section 615 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D. C. 20004
Florida	2.00	5.00	Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services Office of Vital Statistics P. O. Box 210 Jacksonville, Fla. 32231
Georgia	3.00	No charge	Vital Records Service Georgia Department of Human Resources 47 Trinity Avenue, S.W. Room 217 H Atlanta, Ga. 30334
Hawaii	2.00	No charge	Research and Statistics Office State Department of Health P. O. Box 3378 Honolulu, Hawaii 96801
Idaho	4.00	No charge	Bureau of Vital Statistics Statehouse Boise, Idaho 83720

Table 1. Fees -- Con.

Area	For a search of the files to determine no record is on file	For filing a delayed registration	Address
Illinois	3.00	5.00	Division of Vital Records State Department of Public Health 535 West Jefferson Street Springfield, Ill. 62761
Indiana	4.00	No charge	Division of Vital Records State Board of Health 1330 West Michigan Street Indianapolis, Ind. 46206
Iowa	4.00	No charge	Division of Records and Statistics State Department of Health Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Kansas	3.00	2.00	Bureau of Registration and Health Statistics State Department of Health and Environment 6700 South Topeka Avenue Topeka, Kans. 66620
Kentucky	4.00	No charge	Office of Vital Statistics Bureau for Health Services 275 East Main Street Frankfort, Ky. 40621
Louisiana	3.00	3.00	Division of Vital Records Office of Health Services and Environmental Quality P. O. Box 60630 New Orleans, La. 70160
Maine	2.00	No charge	Office of Vital Statistics State Department of Human Services State House Augusta, Maine 04333
Maryland	2.00	No charge	Division of Vital Records State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene State Office Building 201 West Preston Street Baltimore, Md. 21201

Table 1. Fees — Con.

Area	For a search of the files to determine no record is on file	For filing a delayed registration	Address
Massachusetts	2.00	2.00	Vital Records and Statistics Room 107 McCormack Building 1 Ashburton Place Boston, Mass. 02108
Michigan	10.00	20.00	Office of Vital and Health Statistics Michigan Department of Health P. O. Box 30035 Lansing, Mich. 48909
Minnesota	3.00	4.00	Section of Vital Statistics State Department of Health 717 Delaware Street, S.E. Minneapolis, Minn. 55440
Mississippi	5.00	15.00	Division of Public Health Statistics State Board of Health P. O. Box 1700 Jackson, Miss. 39205
Missouri	1.00	No charge	Vital Records Division of Health P. O. Box 570 Jefferson City, Mo. 65102
Montana	2.00	2.00	Bureau of Records and Statistics Department of Health and Environmental Sciences Helena, Mont. 59601
Nebraska	3.00	7.00	Bureau of Vital Statistics State Department of Health 301 Centennial Mall, South P. O. Box 95007 Lincoln, Nebr. 68509
Nevada	2.00	No charge	Department of Health, Welfare, and Rehabilitation Division of Health Section of Vital Statistics Carson City, Nev. 89701

Table 1. Fees —Con.

Area	For a search of the files to determine no record is on file	For filing a delayed registration	Address
New Hampshire	3.00	10.00	Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics Division of Public Health Services Health and Welfare Building Hazen Drive Concord, N. H. 03301
New Jersey	2.00	No charge	State Department of Health Bureau of Vital Statistics Box 1540 Trenton, N. J. 08625
New Mexico	4.00	5.00	Vital Statistics Bureau P. O. Box 968 Santa Fe, N. Mex. 87503
New York City	3.50	No charge	Bureau of Vital Records The City of New York Department of Health 125 Worth Street New York, N. Y. 10013
New York State	5.00	No charge	Bureau of Vital Records State Department of Health Empire State Plaza, Tower Building Albany, N. Y. 12237
North Carolina	3.00	5.00	Vital Records Branch Division of Health Services Department of Human Resources P. O. Box 2091 Raleigh, N. C. 27602
North Dakota	2.00	2.00	Division of Vital Records State Department of Health Bismarck, N. Dak. 58501

Table 1. Fees — Con.

Area	For a search of the files to determine no record is on file	For filing a delayed registration	Address
Ohio	2.00 ¹	9.00 ²	Division of Vital Statistics State Department of Health G-20, State Department Building 65 South Front Street Columbus, Ohio 43215
Oklahoma	2.00	3.00	Vital Records Division State Department of Health 1000 North East 10th Street P. O. Box 53551 Oklahoma City, Okla. 73152
Oregon	5.00	No charge	Vital Records Unit State Health Division P. O. Box 116 Portland, Oreg. 97207
Pennsylvania	4.00	No charge	Division of Vital Statistics P. O. Box 1528, Central Building 101 South Mercer Street New Castle, Pa. 16103
Rhode Island	4.00	5.00	Vital Statistics Department of Health Room 101 Cannon Building 75 Davis Street Providence, R. I. 02908
South Carolina	3.00	5.00	Office of Vital Records and Public Health Statistics Department of Health and Environmental Control Sims Building Columbia, S. C. 29201
South Dakota	3.00	5.00	Vital Records Program State Department of Health Joe Foss Building Pierre, S. Dak. 57501

Table 1. Fees — Con.

Area	For a search of the files to determine no record is on file	For filing a delayed registration	Address
Tennessee	3.00	No charge	Division of Vital Records State Department of Public Health Cordell Hull Building Nashville, Tenn. 37219
Texas	3.00 (5.00 effective 1/1/82)	10.00	Bureau of Vital Statistics Texas Department of Health 1100 West 49th Street Austin, Tex. 78756
Utah	5.00	10.00	Bureau of Health Statistics Utah State Department of Health P. O. Box 2500 Salt Lake City, Utah 84110
Vermont	2.00	2.00	Public Health Statistics Division Department of Health Burlington, Vt. 05401
Virginia	3.00	5.00	Bureau of Vital Records State Department of Health P. O. Box 1000 Richmond, Va. 23208
Washington	3.00	No charge	Vital Records P. O. Box 9709, LB-11 Olympia, Wash. 98504
West Virginia	2.00	No charge	Division of Vital Statistics State Department of Health State Office Building #3 Charleston, W. Va. 25305
Wisconsin	4.00	4.00	Bureau of Health Statistics Wisconsin Division of Health P. O. Box 309 Madison, Wis. 53701

Table 1. Fees — Con.

Area	For a search of the files to determine no record is on file	For filing a delayed registration	Address
Wyoming	2.00	1.00	Vital Records Services Division of Health and Medical Services Hathaway Building Cheyenne, Wyo. 82002
American Samoa	1.00	3.00	Registrar of Vital Statistics Pago Pago, American Samoa 96920
Guam	2.00	5.00	Office of Vital Statistics Department of Public Health and Social Services Government of Guam P. O. Box 2816 Agana, Guam, Mariana Islands 96910
Puerto Rico	0.50	1.00	Division of Demographic Registry and Vital Statistics Department of Health San Juan, P. R. 00908
Trust Territory	0.25 ³	No charge	Clerk of Court of District where event occurred. (If not sure of the district in which event occurred, write to the Director of Medical Services, Department of Medical Services, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950, to have the inquiry referred to the correct district).
Virgin Islands	2.00	No charge	Registrar of Vital Statistics Charlotte Amalie St. Thomas, V. I. 00802

¹Application fee is refunded if no record is located.

²Cost is for filing through Probate Court.

³There is an additional charge of 10 cents per every 100 words.

Table 2. Registration requirements

Area	Births are considered delayed after	Births are registered on regular live birth certificate for	Delayed registration may be filed for person born in			Registrant must sign certificate affirming birth facts if of the age of
			Own State	Other State	Foreign country	
U.S. recommended	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	18 years
Alabama	2 years	2 years	X	---	X	12 years
Alaska	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	12 years
Arizona	7 years	7 years	X	---	---	18 years
Arkansas	1 year ¹	1 year ¹	X	---	---	15 years
California	1 year	1 year	X	X ²	X ²	18 years
Colorado	1 year	7 years	X	---	---	Not specified
Connecticut	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	Not specified
Delaware	6 months	6 months	X	---	---	21 years
District of Columbia	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	15 years
Florida	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	15 years
Georgia	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	12 years
Hawaii	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	18 years
Idaho	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	18 years
Illinois	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	Legal age
Indiana	4 years	4 years	X	---	---	Legal age
Iowa	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	16 years
Kansas	6 months	6 years	X	---	---	18 years
Kentucky	2 years	7 years	X	---	---	18 years
Louisiana	6 months	6 months	X	---	---	12 years
Maine	7 years	7 years	X	---	---	15 years
Maryland	7 years	7 years	X	---	---	Not specified
Massachusetts	1 year	1 year ³	X	X	X	Does not sign
Michigan	1 year	1 year	X	---	X	16 years
Minnesota	1 year	7 years	X	---	---	Not specified
Mississippi	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	13 years
Missouri	6 months	12 years	X	X	---	12 years
Montana	6 months	12 years	X	X ⁴	X ⁴	12 years
Nebraska	4 years	4 years	X	---	---	Does not sign
Nevada	4 years	4 years	X	X ²	X ²	12 years
New Hampshire	6 months	6 months	X	---	---	18 years
New Jersey	1 year	(⁵)	X	---	---	18 years
New Mexico	4 years	4 years	X	---	---	18 years
New York City	1 year ¹	1 year ¹	X	---	---	(⁶)
New York State	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	(⁷)
North Carolina	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	18 years
North Dakota	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	Not specified
Ohio	1 year	7 years ⁸	X	---	---	Legal age
Oklahoma	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	(⁹)

Table 2. Registration requirements — Con.

Area	Births are considered delayed after	Births are registered on regular live birth certificate for	Delayed registration may be filed for person born in			Registrant must sign certificate affirming birth facts if of the age of
			Own State	Other State	Foreign country	
Oregon	6 months	7 years	X	X ²	X ²	Legal age
Pennsylvania	6 years	6 years	X	---	---	18 years
Rhode Island	1 year	7 years	X	---	---	18 years
South Carolina	1 year	4 years	X	---	---	18 years
South Dakota	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	Legal age
Tennessee	6 months	4 years	X	---	---	12 years
Texas	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	Not specified
Utah	4 years	4 years	X	X ¹⁰	X ¹⁰	Legal age
Vermont	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	Not specified
Virginia	1 year	7 years	X	---	---	18 years
Washington	4 years	4 years ³	X	---	---	Legal age
West Virginia	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	16 years
Wisconsin	1 year	6 years	X	---	---	Not specified
Wyoming	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	Legal age (19 years)
American Samoa	6 months	(11)	X	---	---	18 years
Guam	7 years	7 years	X	---	---	18 years
Puerto Rico	1 year	1 year	X	---	---	21 years
Trust Territory	1 year	(11)	X	---	---	Does not sign
Virgin Islands	10 days	(11)	X	---	---	Does not sign

¹Birth is registered on regular live birth certificate until the end of the calendar year following the year of birth.

²Persons born outside State must file with court to obtain delayed registration.

³If birth certificate is signed by the attendant, the regular certificate is used. If not, a special form is used.

⁴In order to register, the registrant must have been a resident of Montana for at least 1 year, and the application must be filed with the court.

⁵The attendant may file a regular birth certificate regardless of the time since birth provided he or she has an office record of the event. If the birth was unattended, the regular birth certificate will be accepted during the 1st year after birth only.

⁶Registrant may sign only if both parents are dead and registrant is 21 years of age or over.

⁷Registrant may sign only if the attendant at birth is dead or cannot be located, both parents are dead or cannot be located, and the registrant is 18 years of age or over.

⁸If birth certificate is signed by the attendant, a regular certificate is acceptable for up to 7 years after birth.

⁹The registrant must sign the affidavit on the face of the certificate before a notary public attesting to the authenticity of the information. If the registrant is unable to sign his (her) name, he (she) shall make his (her) mark and two witnesses must sign verifying the same.

¹⁰The registrant may file whenever birth is not already registered or when a copy of birth certificate cannot be obtained.

¹¹The regular live birth certificate is used to register all delayed birth certificates.

Table 3. Application

Area	Separate application form required	Application made to			Time limit on pending application
		State office	Specified local office	Court	
U.S. recommended	No recommendation	X	---	---	1 year
Alabama	No	X	---	---	Not specified
Alaska	Yes	X	---	---	Not specified
Arizona	No	X	---	---	1 year
Arkansas	No	X	---	---	1 year
California	Yes	X	---	X	Not specified
Colorado	No	X	X	---	1 year
Connecticut	Yes	---	X	---	Not specified
Delaware	No	X	---	---	Not specified
District of Columbia	Yes	X	---	---	Not specified
Florida	Yes	X	---	X	Not specified
Georgia	No	X	X	---	1 year
Hawaii	Yes	X	X ¹	---	1 year
Idaho	No	X	---	---	Not specified
Illinois	No	X	X ²	---	Not specified
Indiana	Yes	X	---	---	Not specified
Iowa	No	X	X ³	---	1 year
Kansas	No	X	---	---	Not specified
Kentucky	No	X	---	---	4 years
Louisiana	No	X ⁴	X	---	6 months
Maine	No	X	X	---	Not specified
Maryland	Yes	X	---	---	Not specified
Massachusetts	No	---	X	---	Not specified
Michigan	No	X	---	---	6 months ⁵
Minnesota	No	X ⁶	X	---	Not specified
Mississippi	No	X	---	---	1 year
Missouri	Yes	X	---	X	Not specified
Montana	No	X	---	X	Not specified
Nebraska	No ⁷	---	---	X	Not specified
Nevada	No	X	X	X	Not specified
New Hampshire	No	---	X	---	1 year
New Jersey	No	X	X	---	Not specified
New Mexico	No	X	---	---	1 year
New York City	Yes	(8)	(8)	---	Not specified
New York State	No	X	X	---	Not specified
North Carolina	Yes	---	X	---	1 year
North Dakota	No	X	X	---	1 year
Ohio	Yes	---	---	X	Not specified
Oklahoma	No	X	---	---	1 year
Oregon	No	X	---	X ⁹	3 years
Pennsylvania	No	X	---	X ¹⁰	Not specified
Rhode Island	No	X	---	---	2 years

Table 3. Application — Con.

Area	Separate application form required	Application made to			Time limit on pending application
		State office	Specified local office	Court	
South Carolina	No	X ¹¹	X ¹¹	---	1 year
South Dakota	No	X	---	---	1 year
Tennessee	No	X	(¹²)	---	1 year
Texas	No	X	---	---	30 days ¹³
Utah	No	X	---	X ⁹	90 days
Vermont	No ⁷	---	---	X	Not specified
Virginia	No	X	---	---	1 year
Washington	No	X	---	---	1 year
West Virginia	No	X	---	---	1 year
Wisconsin	Yes	X	X	---	30 days ¹³
Wyoming	No	X	---	---	1 year
American Samoa	Yes	X	---	---	Not specified
Guam	No	X	---	---	1 year
Puerto Rico	No	X	X	X	30 days
Trust Territory	No	X	---	---	Not specified
Virgin Islands	No	X	---	---	Not specified

¹Application may be made at local office but must be forwarded to State office for approval and filing.

²Births occurring prior to Jan. 1, 1916, may be filed at either the State or local office. In all cases final acceptance of the registration must be made by the State office.

³Documentary evidence may be presented to county registrar for review. Final approval rests with the State registrar.

⁴Only persons residing outside the State apply to the State office. All others must apply to the nearest local registrar.

⁵No time frame is specified by law; however, files are reviewed every 6 months, and pending applications older than 6 months are returned.

⁶Application is normally filed with the clerk of the district court or a local registrar in a city of 100,000 population or more. However, the original certificate is sent to the State registrar.

⁷The applicant must file a petition with the court.

⁸Application is filed and final approval rests with the Manhattan office of the New York City Bureau of Vital Records.

⁹For persons born outside the State application must be made to court.

¹⁰Application may be made to court only if the birth occurred prior to Jan. 1, 1906.

¹¹For births occurring after Jan. 1, 1915, application may be made at either the State or local office. For births occurring before Jan. 1, 1915, application must be made at the local office.

¹²Evidence may be presented to any local registrar for review and abstraction. Final approval of the validity of the registration rests with State registrar.

¹³Applicant may request an additional 30-day extension.

Table 4. Facts to be established by documentary evidence

Area	Name of registrant	Date of birth	Place of birth	Color or race	Sex	Maiden name of mother	Name of father	Birth-place of mother	Birth-place of father	Number and type of documents required to prove birth facts. <u>Maximum amount of evidence required. Requirements may be less for young children.</u>	
										Parentage (see note)	Other facts (see note)
U.S. recommended	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc	3 docs (1 aff)
Alabama	X	X	X	---	X	X	X	---	---	2 affs	2 affs plus 2 docs
Alaska	X	X	X	---	X	X	X	---	---	1 doc	3 docs (1 aff)
Arizona	X	X	X	---	X	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)	3 docs (1 aff)
Arkansas	X	X	X	---	X	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)	3 docs (1 aff)
California	X	X	X	---	X	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)	2 affs plus 1 doc ¹
Colorado	X	X	X	---	X	X	X	---	---	1 doc	2 docs
Connecticut	X	X	X	---	X	X	X	---	---	2 docs (1 aff)	3 docs (2 affs)
Delaware	X	X	X	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2 docs ²
District of Columbia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	1 doc (aff)	3 docs (1 aff)
Florida	X	X	X	---	X	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff) ³	3 docs (1 aff) ³
Georgia	X	X	X	---	X	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)	3 docs (1 aff) ⁴
Hawaii	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	---	---	1 doc	2 docs plus 1 aff
Idaho	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc	3 docs (1 aff) ⁵
Illinois	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)	2 docs (1 aff)
Indiana	X	X	X	---	---	---	---	---	---	2 docs	2 docs
Iowa	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc	3 docs
Kansas	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	2 docs plus 2 affs ⁶	2 docs plus 2 affs ⁶
Kentucky	X	X	X	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2 affs plus 1 doc ⁶
Louisiana	X	X	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	3 docs (1 aff) ⁷	3 docs (1 aff)
Maine	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)	3 docs (1 aff)
Maryland	X	X	X	---	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	1 aff plus 1 doc ⁹	3 docs (1 aff)
Massachusetts	X	X	X	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X	X	1 aff plus 1 doc ⁹	1 aff plus 1 doc ⁹
Michigan	X	X	X	---	---	X ¹¹	X	---	---	1 doc	3 docs (1 aff) ¹⁰
Minnesota	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc	2 docs plus 1 aff ¹²
Mississippi	X	X	X	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	1 aff plus 1 doc	2 docs plus 1 aff ¹³
Missouri	X	X	X	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	1 aff plus 2 docs	1 aff plus 2 docs ¹⁴
Montana	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)	3 docs (1 aff) ⁴
Nebraska	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	3 docs (3 affs) ⁷	3 docs (1 aff) ⁷
Nevada	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	2 docs (1 aff)	2 docs (1 aff)
New Hampshire	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc	4 docs (1 aff) ¹⁵
New Jersey	X	X	X	---	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	1 aff plus 1 doc ¹⁶	1 aff plus 1 doc ¹⁶

Table 4. Facts to be established by documentary evidence — Con.

Area	Name of registrant	Date of birth	Place of birth	Color or race	Sex	Maiden name of mother	Name of father	Birth-place of mother	Birth-place of father	Number and type of documents required to prove birth facts. Maximum amount of evidence required. Requirements may be less for young children.	Parentage (see note)	Other facts (see note)
New Mexico	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc		3 docs ¹⁷
New York City	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	(18)	---	2 docs		2 docs
New York State	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	3 docs ¹⁹		3 docs ¹⁹
North Carolina	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)		3 docs (1 aff) ²⁰
North Dakota	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	---	---	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	1 doc	Prescribed by court	3 docs (1 aff)
Ohio	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)	Prescribed by court	3 docs (1 aff) ⁴
Oklahoma	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)		3 docs (1 aff) ⁷
Oregon	X	X	X	---	---	---	---	---	---	---		1 doc
Pennsylvania	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)		3 docs (1 aff)
Rhode Island	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc		2 docs
South Carolina	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)		3 docs (1 aff)
South Dakota	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc plus 1 aff ²¹		1 doc plus 1 aff ²¹
Tennessee	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)		3 docs (1 aff)
Texas	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	2 docs plus 1 aff ²²		2 docs plus 1 aff ²²
Utah	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	Not specified		Not specified
Vermont	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	X ⁸	1 doc (aff)		3 docs (1 aff) ²³
Virginia	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)		3 docs (1 aff)
Washington	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)		3 docs (1 aff) ⁴
West Virginia	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	X	X	1 doc (aff)		3 docs (1 aff) ⁴
Wisconsin	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)		3 docs (1 aff) ²⁴
Wyoming	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)		3 docs (1 aff) ⁷
American Samoa	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	1 doc plus 2 affs ²⁶		2 docs plus 1 aff ²⁶
Guam	X	X	X	---	---	X	X	---	---	1 doc (aff)		2 docs (1 aff)
Puerto Rico	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	1 doc plus 1 aff		1 doc plus 1 aff
Trust Territory	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	None		None
Virgin Islands	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	(25)	As deemed necessary		As deemed necessary

Note: An effort is made to differentiate between affidavits of personal knowledge and other types of evidence (insurance policies, hospital records, and so forth). This is done in the following manner:

When an affidavit (aff) is permissible as one of the required documents (docs), it is shown in parenthesis along with the number of affidavits accepted. For example, "3 docs (1 aff)" means that a total of 3 documents are required, only 1 of which may be an affidavit. If affidavits are not acceptable, the number of documents is shown without any further explanation, for example, "2 docs." If affidavits are required, they are shown without the parentheses. For example, "2 affs plus 1 doc" means that 2 affidavits plus 1 other piece of evidence, a total of 3, are required.

¹A total of 2 documents may be presented without affidavits.
²Only 1 document is required if it is dated before the registrant's 2d birthday.

³The documentary requirement for the courts is specified as "Evidence deemed sufficient by the County Judge."

⁴Only 2 documents are required to prove place of birth.

⁵For certificates filed within 7 years of birth 2 documents are needed, only 1 of which may be an affidavit, each listing complete birth information--full name, parentage, date of birth, and place of birth. For certificates filed after 7 years, 3 documents must list place of birth. One document, other than an affidavit, must list exact date of birth. The other 2 can list age or date of birth.

⁶Documents may be substituted for affidavits on a one-for-one basis.

⁷Only 2 documents are required if 1 was established prior to the 4th birthday.

⁸No items are specified that must be proven. However, the items indicated appear on the certificate form.

⁹The affidavit must be prepared by someone who would have been authorized by law to file the certificate of birth at the time of birth. If this cannot be obtained, the applicant may petition the town clerk to establish the record providing him or her with as much documentation as the clerk deems necessary.

¹⁰Only 2 documents are required if 1 document is a certification from official records of the physician attending the birth, a transcript of the hospital record of the birth, or a document created prior to the 5th birthday of the registrant.

¹¹The maiden name of the mother is requested but not required.

¹²Only 1 document is required if it is a physician's or a hospital record of the birth. If none of the documents were created prior to the 7th birthday, additional documentation shall be required.

¹³Only 1 document is required to support place of birth.

¹⁴Persons born outside Missouri wishing to file in Missouri must also present a residency affidavit.

¹⁵Three documents are required if 1 was established prior to the 1st birthday, only 1 of which may be an affidavit of personal knowledge. If records were made after the 1st birthday, 4 records are required, 1 of which may be an affidavit of personal knowledge.

¹⁶The affidavit is part of the delayed report of birth form. Only the individual whose birth is being reported or an older member of the registrant's family with personal knowledge of the birth facts may sign the affidavit section.

¹⁷If registrant is under 18 years of age, an affidavit on the face of the certificate, signed by the parent or legal guardian, and 2 documents are required. If 18 or over, 3 documents are required, and no affidavit is accepted.

¹⁸Proof of mother's residence in the United States prior to the birth of the registrant must be presented.

¹⁹Only 2 documents (no affidavit) are required if the certificate is signed by the attendant or 1 of the parents.

²⁰Two of the 3 documents must show place of birth. Only 2 documents are required if applicant has not yet reached 12th birthday.

²¹Only 1 affidavit is required if it was prepared by a parent or the attendant at birth--otherwise 2 affidavits plus a document or 2 documents are required.

²²One document must have been prepared prior to the 10th birthday of the registrant.

²³If a document dated prior to the 7th birthday can be obtained, only 2 documents are required.

²⁴Three alternatives are offered, as follows: (1) hospital or doctor's record of birth accompanied by affidavit of doctor or custodian of doctor's or hospital records stating that the facts as set forth in certificate are true, (2) affidavit of parent or parents accompanied either by 2 documents made more than 5 years prior to the date of application or by 1 document made within 5 years of the date of birth, and (3) 3 documents (1 affidavit). Documents must have been made more than 5 years prior to the date of application.

²⁵Regular live birth certificate form is to be used and filed in as complete a form as lapse of time will permit.

²⁶Four alternatives are offered, as follows: (1) signed certificate and affidavit of attending physician and an affidavit from a blood relative; (2) signed certificate and affidavit of blood relative and an affidavit from a nonrelative, plus 1 document proving date and place of birth; (3) signed certificate and affidavit of either a blood relative or the attendant at birth and 2 documents proving date and place of birth; and (4) 3 documents proving date and place of birth.

Appendix

Model State Vital Statistics Act: 1977 Revision

Section 9. Delayed Registration of Birth

(a) When a certificate of birth of a person born in this State has not been filed within the time period provided in Section 7, a certificate of birth may be filed in accordance with regulations of the State Agency. The certificate shall be registered subject to such evidentiary requirements as the State Agency shall by regulation prescribe to substantiate the alleged facts of birth.

(b) Certificates of birth registered one year or more after the date of birth shall be made on forms prescribed and furnished by the State Registrar, marked "Delayed," and shall show on their face the date of the delayed registration.

(c) A summary statement of the evidence submitted in support of the delayed registration shall be endorsed on the certificate.

(d) (1) When an applicant does not submit the minimum documentation required in the regulations for delayed registration or when the State Registrar has reasonable cause to question the validity or adequacy of the applicant's sworn statement or the documentary evidence, and if the deficiencies are not corrected, the State Registrar shall not register the delayed certificate of birth and shall advise the applicant of the reasons for this action, and shall further advise the applicant of his or her right of appeal to (a court of competent jurisdiction).

(2) The State Agency may by regulation provide for the dismissal of an application which is not actively prosecuted.

Model State Vital Statistics Regulations: 1977 Revision

Regulation 3. Delayed Registration of Birth (Authorization: Section 9 of the Model Act)

Regulation 3.1 Registration - Five Days to One Year

Certificates of birth filed after five days, but within one year from the date of birth, shall be registered on the standard form of live birth certificate in the manner prescribed in (Section 7 of the Model Act). Such certificate shall not be marked "Delayed."

In any case where the certificate is signed by someone other than the attendant or person in charge of the institution where birth occurred, a notarized statement setting forth the reason therefor must be attached to the certificate. The State Registrar may require additional evidence in support of the facts of birth and/or an explanation of why the certificate of birth was not filed within the required five days.

Regulation 3.2 Delayed Certificate of Birth Form

All certificates registered one year or more after the date of birth are to be registered on a delayed certificate of birth form prescribed by the State Registrar.

Regulation 3.3 Who May Request the Registration of and Sign a Delayed Certificate of Birth

Any person born in this State whose birth is not recorded in this State, or his parent, guardian, next of kin, or older person acting for the registrant and having personal knowledge of the facts of birth may request the registration of a delayed certificate of birth, subject to these regulations and instructions issued by the State Registrar.

Each delayed certificate of birth shall be signed and sworn to before an official authorized to administer oaths by the person whose birth is to be registered if such person is 18 years of age or over and is competent to sign and swear to the accuracy of the facts stated therein; otherwise the certificate shall be signed and sworn to by one of the following in the indicated order of priority:

- (a) One of the parents of the registrant, or
- (b) The guardian of the registrant, or
- (c) The next of kin of the registrant, or
- (d) Any older person having personal knowledge of the facts of birth.

Regulation 3.4 Facts to be Established for a Delayed Registration of Birth

The minimum facts which must be established by documentary evidence shall be the following:

- (a) The full name of the person at the time of birth;
- (b) The date of birth and place of birth;
- (c) The full maiden name of the mother;
- (d) The full name of the father; except that if the mother was not married either at the time of conception or birth the name of the father shall not be entered on the delayed certificate except as provided in Regulation 3.5.

Regulation 3.5 Delayed Registration Following a Legal Change of Status

When evidence is presented reflecting a legal change of status by adoption, legitimation, paternity determination, or acknowledgment of paternity, a new delayed certificate may be established to reflect such change.

The existing certificate and the evidence upon which the new certificate was based shall be placed in a special file. Such file shall not be subject to inspection

except upon order of (a court of competent jurisdiction) or by the State Registrar for purposes of properly administering the vital statistics program.

Regulation 3.6 Documentary Evidence - Requirements

To be acceptable for filing, the name of the registrant and the date and place of birth entered on a delayed certificate of birth shall be supported by at least:

(a) Two pieces of documentary evidence, only one of which may be an affidavit of personal knowledge, if the record is filed within seven years after the date of birth.

(b) Three pieces of documentary evidence, only one of which may be an affidavit of personal knowledge, if the record is filed seven years or more after the date of birth.

Facts of parentage shall be supported by at least one document which may be one of the documents above other than an affidavit of personal knowledge.

Regulation 3.7 Documentary Evidence - Acceptability

The State Registrar may establish a priority of best evidence.

Documents presented, such as census, hospital, church, and school records, must be from independent sources and shall be in the form of the original record or a duly certified copy thereof or a signed statement from the custodian of the record or document.

All documents submitted in evidence, other than an affidavit of personal knowledge, must have been established at least ten years prior to the date of application or have been established prior to the applicant's tenth birthday.

An affidavit of personal knowledge, to be acceptable, must be prepared by one of the parents, other relative, or any older person and must be signed before an official authorized to administer oaths. In all cases, the affiant must be at least ten years older than the applicant and have personal knowledge of the facts of birth.

Regulation 3.8 Abstraction of Documentary Evidence

The State Registrar, or his or her designated representative, shall abstract on the delayed certificate of birth a description of each document submitted to support the facts shown on the delayed birth certificate. This description shall include:

(a) The title or description of the document;

(b) The name and address of the affiant, if the document is an affidavit of personal knowledge, or of the custodian, if the document is an original or certified copy of a record or a signed statement from the custodian;

(c) The date of the original filing of the document being abstracted;

(d) The information regarding the birth facts contained in the document.

All documents submitted in support of the delayed birth registration shall be returned to the applicant after review.

Regulation 3.9 Certification by the State Registrar

The State Registrar, or his or her designated representative, shall, by signature, certify:

(a) That no prior birth certificate is on file for the person whose birth is to be recorded;

(b) That he or she has reviewed the evidence submitted to establish the facts of birth;

(c) That the abstract of the evidence appearing on the delayed certificate of birth accurately reflects the nature and content of the document.

Regulation 3.10 Dismissal After One Year

Applications for delayed certificates which have not been completed within one year from the date of application may be dismissed at the discretion of the State Registrar. Upon dismissal, the State Registrar shall so advise the applicant and all documents submitted in support of such registration shall be returned to the applicant.

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