

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Jeanne M. Lambrew, Ph.D.
Commissioner



Maine Department of Health and Human Services
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
11 State House Station
220 Capitol Street
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
Tel: (207) 287-5500; Toll Free: (888) 664-9491
TTY: Dial 711 (Maine Relay); Fax (207) 287-5470

How to Order a Vital Record from Data, Research, and Vital Statistics (DRVS)

Maine officially started keeping records on January 1, 1892. Vital records prior to 1892 can be obtained through the municipality of event.

There are three ways to order a vital record:

- ✓ Walk-in request with payment by cash, check or credit card. Vital Records is located at 220 Capitol Street in Augusta, Maine.
- ✓ Written request through the mail with payment by check or money order. Please enclose a copy of your photo ID and a long, self-addressed, STAMPED envelope with your request.
- ✓ Maine Vital Records does not accept credit cards over the phone. VitalChek Network, Inc is an independent company that Data, Research, and Vital Statistics (DRVS) has partnered with to provide you this service; VitalChek can be reached:
 - through its website, www.vitalchek.com, or
 - by phone at 1-877-523-2659.

There is an additional fee to expedite your order that charged by VitalChek for using this service. All major credit cards are accepted, including American Express®, Discover®, MasterCard® or Visa®. To contact the Vital Records office directly; please call (207) 287-3181 or toll-free at 1-888-664-9491.

Access and Disclosure of Vital Records

DRVS does not release information contain in a vital record over the phone. Title 22 §2706 provides the statutory language specifying the length of time from the date of event in which a vital record is considered public.

Public Records

- ✓ 75 years for birth certificates
- ✓ 50 years for fetal death certificates
- ✓ 25 years for death certificates
- ✓ 50 years for marriage certificates and
- ✓ 50 years for domestic partnerships.

Any person may obtain noncertified copies of these vital records in accordance with the department's rules. Certificates and records of birth, marriage and death, including fetal death, created prior to 1892 are open to the public without restriction. All persons may purchase a copy on municipal letterhead or a noncertified copy of a vital record created prior to 1892.

Unlawful disclosure of data. It is unlawful for any employee of the State or of any municipality in the State to disclose data contained in such records, except as authorized in this section and except that a clerk of a municipality may cause to be printed in the annual town report the births reported within the year covered by the report, by number of births and location by city or town where birth occurred, deaths reported within the year covered by the report, by date of death, name, age and location by city or town where death occurred, and marriages reported within the year covered by the report by names of parties and date of marriage. All other details of birth, marriage, divorce or death may not be available to the public, except as specified in department rules.