



TEXAS BIRTH CERTIFICATE APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT. APPLICATION MUST BE ORIGINAL (INCLUDING SIGNATURE). NO CROSS OUT OR WHITE OUT WILL BE ACCEPTED. INCLUDE A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR VALID ID WHEN SENDING IN THE REQUEST. SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK.

Step 1: YOUR INFORMATION AND SHIPPING ADDRESS (PLEASE PRINT)

Your Name (First, Middle, Last Name, Suffix) Please separate with a space between first, middle and last name. Street Address City State Zip Code Your relationship to Person named on Certificate: Self / Parent Other-Specify E-mail Address Daytime Phone Number I authorize mailing to the address below, if mailing to address other than listed above. First, Middle, Last Name, Suffix Please separate with a space between first, middle and last name. Address to Send Certificate to if different than noted above City State Zip Code Reason for Request: Newborn Travel/Passport Records School Insurance Other:

Step 2 : INFORMATION FOR PERSON NAMED ON BIRTH CERTIFICATE (PLEASE PRINT)

Full Name on Certificate (First, Middle, Last Name, Suffix) Please separate with a space between first, middle and last name. Date of Birth Month Day Year Place of Birth City County State TEXAS ONLY Parent 1: First Middle, Last name prior to first marriage (Maiden Name). Please separate with a space between first, middle and last name. Parent 2: First Middle, Last name prior to first marriage (Maiden Name). Please separate with a space between first, middle and last name.

Step 3 : COST & FEES (FEES NON-REFUNDABLE)

Table with columns: Select Certificate Type, Qty, Price/each, Total. Includes options for Long Form Birth Certificate, Short Form Birth Certificate, Texas Flag Heirloom Birth Certificate, Bassinet Heirloom Birth Certificate, Birth Verification, Military Personnel with current deployment orders, Expedite Overnight Mail, Priority Mail, USPS Express Mail, and a voluntary contribution of \$5.00.

Step 4 : AFFIDAVIT

ONLY applications for birth certificates (NOT birth verifications) submitted by mail need to be notarized. STATE OF COUNTY OF This instrument was acknowledged before me on (Date) by (Name of person acknowledging) (Notary Public's Signature) (Personalized Seal)

WARNING: IT IS A FELONY TO FALSIFY INFORMATION ON THIS DOCUMENT. THE PENALTY FOR KNOWINGLY MAKING A FALSE STATEMENT ON THIS FORM OR SIGNING A FORM WHICH CONTAINS A FALSE STATEMENT IS 2 TO 10 YEARS IMPRISONMENT AND A FINE OF UP TO \$10,000. (HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE, CHAPTER 195, SEC. 195.003.)

READ & SIGN (If record is not found, the fees are not refundable and are kept. If record is not on file, VSS will issue a "not found" letter.)

Signature of Applicant Date Signed (MM/DD/YYYY) / /

OFFICE USE ONLY

CASH CHECK MONEY ORDER CREDIT CARD (walk in only) REMIT No. AMOUNT\$ DATE FILED BY STAFF

BIRTH CERTIFICATE NUMBER 142 - DOCUMENT CONTROL NUMBER(S)



## TEXAS BIRTH CERTIFICATE APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT. APPLICATION MUST BE ORIGINAL (INCLUDING SIGNATURE). NO CROSS OUT OR WHITE OUT WILL BE ACCEPTED. INCLUDE A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR VALID PHOTO ID WHEN SENDING IN THE REQUEST.

**Walk In:** Same day service in most cases. Hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. DSHS - Vital Statistics Section, 1100 W. 49th St., Austin, TX 78756

**Online Orders:** Visit [www.texas.gov](http://www.texas.gov) to order online. Online orders are mailed 20-25 business days after receipt of the request.

**Mail In Orders:** Processed and mailed 6 - 8 weeks after receipt of the request. Mail to: DSHS - VSS, P.O. Box 12040, Austin, TX 78711-2040

**Expedited Orders:** Processed and mailed 20 - 25 business days after receipt of the request. **Must be sent to the Texas Department of State Health Services - Vital Statistics Section via an OVERNIGHT mail service, such as FedEx, LoneStar, or UPS to:** DSHS - VSS, 1100 W. 49th St., Austin, TX 78756

Long form Birth Certificate - Most comprehensive birth record. It is a copy of the original birth certificate. It will also show a history of corrections that have been made to the birth record. This form is often used for requesting passports.

Short form Birth Certificate - An abstract of the birth record. This birth certificate will only show current information for the child's name, date of birth, place of birth, sex, and name of parent(s). This form will not show a history of corrections. This form is often used for school records and is acceptable for most purposes.

Heirloom birth certificate - Heirloom birth certificates are abstracts of the birth certificate. They are primarily used for framing and display. The information on an "heirloom birth certificate" is similar to a "short form". Examples of heirloom birth certificates can be seen on our website at <http://www.dshs.texas.gov/reqproc/heirloom.shtm>.

Verification Letter - A verification letter will include the child's name, the date of birth, and the county where the birth occurred. Verification letters are available for births that have occurred since 1903. Verification letters are not considered legal substitutes for certified copies of birth certificates. The VSS strongly recommends that applicants ensure a verification will satisfy its intended use.

Military Personnel with current deployment orders - H.B. No. 1260 Sec. 431.039. EXEMPTION FROM FEES FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL BEING DEPLOYED. A member of the National Guard on federal active duty, or a member of the armed forces of the United States on active duty, who is preparing to be deployed to serve in a hostile fire zone as designated by the United States secretary of defense is exempt from paying the following state or local governmental fees the member incurs because of the deployment to arrange the member's personal affairs: (1) fees for obtaining copies of: (A) a birth certificate; SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007. **APPLICATIONS WITHOUT MILITARY ID AND MILITARY ORDERS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.**

Copies of birth certificates for births that occurred within the past 75 years can be requested only by the immediate family of the person whose name is on the birth certificate. See Section 181.1(13) of the Texas Administrative Code for who qualifies as an immediate family member. An immediate family member is the child, their guardian, their children, spouses, parents, siblings, or grandparents.

Applicants who are not immediate family members must provide legal documentation (such as a court order establishing guardianship) that demonstrates a direct, tangible interest in the birth certificate.

**The applicant must include a photocopy of his or her valid photo ID issued by a governmental entity. See Section 181.28 of the the Texas Administrative Code for a complete list of acceptable forms of identification. You also can see VSS's page on acceptable identification in English (<http://www.dshs.texas.gov/vs/reqproc/Acceptable-IDs/>) and Spanish ([http://www.dshs.texas.gov/vs/reqproc/Acceptable-IDs-\(Spanish\)/](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/vs/reqproc/Acceptable-IDs-(Spanish)/)).**

**Applications for birth certificates cannot be processed without a photo ID or alternate IDs and the signature of the applicant. If a valid photo ID or alternate IDs and signatures are not received, the application will not be processed.**

### Walk In Customer Checklist

Complete steps 1, 2, and 3 of the application. Please type or print clearly.

Sign and date the application

Have current driver's license, passport or state identification ready

Have appropriate fees ready. Make checks or money orders payable to DSHS - Vital Statistics.

### Mail In / Expedited Customer Checklist

Complete steps 1, 2, and 3 of the application. Please type or print clearly.

Complete step 4 of the application: Sign and date the application in the presence of a notary public.

Enclose a copy of a current driver's license, passport or state identification.

Enclose appropriate fees. Make checks or money orders payable to DSHS - Vital Statistics.