

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

Type of Record (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)

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