

Legal Entitlement to Birth and Death Records

Who may purchase a certified copy of a Louisiana Birth Certificate:

Yourself:

- **Registrant** (person named on the certificate)

Immediate Family:

- **Current legal spouse** of person named on the certificate
- **Brother** or **sister** of person named on the certificate
- **Mother** or **father** of person named on the certificate
- **Grandchild** of person named on the certificate
- **Grandparent** of person named on the certificate
- **Legal Guardian** of person named on the certificate*

*Legal guardian must provide a **judgment of custody**. Custody by mandate or provisional custody from a notary will not be accepted. Transfer of custody witnessed by a notary will not be accepted.

Who may purchase a certified copy of a Louisiana Death Certificate:

- Immediate Family (listed above)
- Beneficiaries with copy of insurance policy naming person applying for certified copy of the Death Certificate
- Last Will and Testament naming person applying for certified copy of the Death Certificate as a beneficiary
- Funeral Directors may request additional copies of a Death Certificate on behalf of surviving immediate family members within one year of the date of death.

A non-family member may request a certified copy of a certificate on behalf of an entitled individual with a letter of authorization that names the authorized individual and provides the person named on the certificate's name and date of birth. **A copy of a state drivers' license or state ID for the entitled individual is required.**

Attorney Entitlement

An attorney representing the person named on the certificate or representing any of the legally entitled individuals listed above is entitled to purchase a certified copy of a Louisiana Birth Certificate with a letter of representation on original letterhead. Attorney's bar roll number is required on the application.

Attorney's paralegal or runner may purchase a certified copy with a letter on original letterhead stating the case docket number, attorney's bar roll number, and the name of the person to whom the document is to be released.

LSA R.S. 40:61 a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars or imprisonment of not more than five years or both shall be imposed on any person who willfully and knowingly makes any false statement on any application for a certified copy of a vital record.