Birth and Death Certificate FAQs

Birth Certificates

Q: How much does a certified copy of a birth certificate cost?
A: $23.00 and all forms of payment are accepted for this type of transaction.

Q: Who can get a birth certificate?
A: Only the individual or someone related to the person by marriage (spouse) or blood (mother, father, child, or grandparents) are eligible to request a certificate.

Q: If my child was born within the city limits of San Marcos or in a county other than Hays County, can I still obtain a birth certificate at the County Clerk’s office?
A: Yes, but only the short form birth certificate. If the birth was within the San Marcos city limits, the City of San Marcos Clerk’s Office can provide the long form. The short form is valid for most requirements, but not all (for instance, passports typically require the full certificate). The long-form certificate

Q: If my child was born elsewhere in Hays County can I still obtain a birth certificate from the Hays County Clerk?
A: Yes, the Hays County Clerk can provide the long-form certificate which would be valid for all uses, including passports.

Q: Can I obtain a birth certificate for a birth in another state at the County Clerk’s Office?
A: No, only the agency or entity where the birth occurred can issue it. Visit https://www.usa.gov/replace-vital-documents for information.

Q: What documentation would I need to bring in order to obtain a copy of a birth certificate?
A: A valid driver license is acceptable to obtain a birth certificate. If you do not have a driver license see this the list of acceptable documents in English  y en Español.

Q. How can I get a certificate by mail?
A. Only a qualified applicant can receive a certified copy
  1. Complete an application for a certified copy and have it notarized
  2. Enclose the required fee (see the application)
  3. Enclose a copy of the applicant’s drive license
  4. Mail Payment (Check or Money Order only) AND ALL COMPLETED NOTARIZED FORMS TO Hays County Clerk
     712 S. Stagecoach Trail Ste. 2008
     San Marcos, TX 78666

Texas Health and Safety Code § 191.0031 as of September 1, 2015
Certified copies for Birth or Death Certificates by mail: The state registrar or a local registrar may not issue a certified copy of a record under this chapter to a person who has applied for the record by mail unless the person has provided notarized proof of identification in accordance with rules adopted by the Executive Commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission. The rules may require the issuer of the certified copy to verify the notarization using the records of the Secretary of State under Section 406.012, Government Code.

DEATH CERTIFICATES
Q: How much is the death certificate?
A: It is $21.00 for the first copy and $4.00 for any additional copies, if purchased within the same transaction.

Q: Who can obtain a death certificate?
A: Funeral Home directors and immediate family (current spouse, mother, father, children, and grandparents) of the deceased.

Q: If a person passed away within the city limits of San Marcos can I still obtain the death certificate from Hays County?
A: No, the San Marcos City Clerk’s Office handles those death certificates. If the death occurred anywhere else in Hays County, the Hays County Clerk’s Office can provide the certificate to those eligible to receive one.