



IDPH News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 21, 2017

Contact: Polly Carver-Kimm

Polly.Carver-Kimm@idph.iowa.gov

Iowa Birth Certificate Exchange Offered for Small Certificates Issued from 1993- 2009

The Iowa Department of Public Health Bureau of Health Statistics is taking steps to exchange any newborn birth certificate issued from May 1993 to October 2009, where the birth certificate is a small wallet-size card. The newborn birth certificate wallet cards issued during this time period did not contain enough vital record information to be used for identification purposes, essentially making them less valuable for the purpose they are intended to be used for.

The newborn birth certificate wallet cards were issued from May 1993 to October 2009, and after the birth of a child in Iowa. The birth certificate wallet card was printed as a perforated attachment to a larger document. The newborn birth certificate wallet card measures 2 5/8 inches by 4 inches. The entire document that parents received measures 3 1/2 inches by 8 inches.

The newborn birth cards may be exchanged by mail or in person with the Bureau of Health Statistics, 321 E. 12th St., Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

The following steps must be taken to expedite the exchange of the newborn birth certificate wallet cards:

- Download the Application for Certified Copy of Iowa Vital Record from <http://www.idph.iowa.gov/health-statistics/request-record>;

- Open Application for Copy of Birth Certificate link and print document;
- Complete the application, including notarized signature;
- Return application, copy of driver's license and original newborn birth certificate wallet card in person or by mail.

Due to the number of certificates to be replaced, it is expected to take four to six weeks to receive the replacement birth certificate via mail. In-person requests will be completed in a timely manner and in the order they are received.

###



Gerd W. Clabaugh; MPA
Director

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

Feb. 21, 2017

Iowa Newborn Birth Certificate Wallet Cards issued from 1993 through 2009 will be exchanged at no cost to the entitled customer.



1. Complete the Application for Certified Copy of Iowa Vital Record
2. Present ID to Vital Records Clerk
3. Surrender original newborn birth certificate wallet card for exchange

The Vital Records clerk will instruct you on the process to pick up the new certified copy and provide the timeframe in which the copy will be ready.

Thank you in advance for your patience.