How Michigan Birth Certificate Data Is Used



Why is this information needed?

A birth certificate helps prove identity and is needed for many services and benefits. Hospitals and licensed midwives use the Parent Information Worksheet to collect facts about the parents. These include race, residence, education, and insurance status. Some information is used to help create programs that help support healthy mothers and babies.

Parents must fill out the worksheet before they leave the hospital so the child's birth certificate can be filed with the child's name, and a Social Security number can be requested at the time of birth. Changes to add a name to the birth certificate later require an application and a fee, and can take several weeks to process.

Who do I give this information to?

Turn the worksheet in to the hospital birth clerk, nurse or licensed midwife when they ask for it. The information is used to file your child's record with the local Clerk's office and the State Vital Records office.

Do I have to provide information?

Michigan Law, MCL 333.2867, requires people with needed information for a birth record to provide it when asked. State law also provides protection against the unauthorized use of identifying information.

What happens next?

If you requested a social security number, it should be mailed within 2-4 weeks.

Birth certificates are not mailed automatically. Birth certificates may be ordered from your local city or county clerk's office or the State of Michigan Vital Records.

Video - Why is Birth Data Collected

Order Copy of Birth Certificate

Scan to read MCL 333.2867

State of Michigan Vital Records Customer Service 517-335-8666

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