

Your Child's Birth is Filed, What's Next?

Congratulations, you have filed your child's birth certificate. After the paperwork you provided is checked, the local clerk's office will file the birth record with the State of Michigan, and the birth will be officially registered.

Having a certified copy of the birth certificate is important. It is proof of your child's birth and can help with health insurance, tax benefits, travel, childcare and school.

You can buy certified copies of the birth certificate for a fee. You can get them at the local clerk's office, or you can order copies from the State of Michigan.

Visit: <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/doing-business/vitalrecords>.

What about a Social Security Number?

You may apply for your child's Social Security number (SSN) by checking "yes" on the **Live Birth Certificate Worksheet** that was provided by your local clerk's office.

- If you check "yes," the Social Security Administration (SSA) will typically mail your child's card to the address provided on the worksheet within two to six weeks. If you have questions, contact your local SSA office. Learn more here at ssa.gov/locator/.
- If you checked "no" or left it blank, you will have to apply for your child's SSN directly through the local SSA office.