



## **BIRTHS OCCURRING OUTSIDE AN INSTITUTION (Homebirth)**

<http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/22/title22sec2761.html>

If a child is delivered outside an institution, not in a moving conveyance, and unattended by a certified nurse midwife, professional or licensed midwife or other attendant, the parents must request worksheets directly from the Department or the municipality in which they reside. The VS1-C Parent Worksheet and the VS1-D Medical Worksheet worksheets must be completed, signed, notarized and the parents must verify the accuracy of the personal and medical data on the worksheets. In addition to the worksheets, at least two forms of documentary evidence must be provided to support proof of pregnancy and the fact that the mother gave birth in the State of Maine. Examples of acceptable documentation are provided below.

### **Proof of Pregnancy**

- ❖ An affidavit (notarized) presented from a licensed, registered, or certified health care provider who is qualified to determine pregnancy as part of the scope of his or her license or registration, or certification; or an affidavit (notarized) along with photocopy of ID (for example, a driver's license, passport or government ID, etc.) presented from one person, other than the parents, having knowledge that the infant was born alive, or
- ❖ A medical record or a letter from a licensed, registered, or certified health care provider or medical institution.
- ❖ Prenatal medical records for the mother.
- ❖ Newborn exam by a health professional.
- ❖ Medical or immunization report for the newborn.
- ❖ Christening or baptismal records.
- ❖ Signed, notarized personal affidavit by someone over age 5 who will affirm that they either saw the mother pregnant and then non pregnant and with the new baby, visited the home shortly after the birth or was present at the birth.

### **Proof of Place of Birth**

- ❖ If the birth occurred outside the mother's primary place of residence, proof shall consist of an affidavit (notarized) along with a photocopy of ID from a person having knowledge of the mother's presence in the State of Maine on the date of the birth.
- ❖ If the birth occurred in the mother's primary place of residence, proof of residence in the following order of preference:
  - A utility bill, telephone, or other bill, which includes the mother's name and address.
  - A rent receipt which includes the mother's name, address, and signature of the mother's landlord.
  - A driver's license, or state issued identification card, which includes the mother's current address on the face of the license or card.
  - An envelope addressed to the mother at her place of residence, and post marked prior to the date of birth; or
  - An affidavit (notarized) attesting to the mother's place of residence along with a photocopy of ID from a person, other than the father, who was either living with the mother at the time of the alleged birth or has knowledge of the mother's residence.

### **Other Supplemental Information Proving Home Birth**

At the discretion of the State Registrar, the above documents may be supplemented with any additional documents needed to verify the circumstances of the birth. Additional documents may include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following:

- ❖ An unannounced visit by a public health nurse, other health professional, registrar staff, or other person including city, county, state, or federal law enforcement officers, prior to registering the birth. This paragraph does not permit nor give authority to enter these premises unless permission is obtained from the occupant at the time of the visit.
- ❖ Multiple forms of identifying documents, with or without photographs, when the documents described in this section are unavailable.
- ❖ Personal appearance of both parents, either together or separately; or
- ❖ Personal appearance of the infant whose birth certificate the parents are attempting to file.

The parent and medical worksheets must be sent to the Department for review and if approved, will be entered, and registered in the EBRS by the Department. The birth record will be available for issuance from the place of birth municipality as well as the mother's resident municipality once the birth is registered. The worksheets will be scanned and attached to the birth case in the EBRS.