

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
OFFICE OF VITAL RECORDS
Substantive Policy No. SP-044-PHS-VRS

CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH RESULTING IN STILLBIRTH

The purpose of this substantive policy statement is to inform the general public of the Department's implementation of A.R.S. § 36-329.01 that establishes a Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth for the parents of a fetus born/delivered dead after a gestational period of at least 20 completed weeks.

1. If a fetus is delivered/born dead after a gestational period of at least 20 completed weeks, in addition to completing and filing a Fetal Death Certificate, a hospital or midwife will offer parents the option of having a Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth completed and filed with a local registrar or the State Registrar.
2. If a parent wants a Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth filed and a funeral establishment is involved in the disposition of the fetus, a hospital or midwife will complete their portion of the Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth for the funeral establishment. The funeral establishment will complete their portion of the certificate and sign in the appropriate box for funeral director and file both the Fetal Death certificate and the Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth with a local registrar or the State Registrar within three days of the delivery/birth. A parent may file an application for a certified copy of the certificate from the State Registrar once the State Registrar receives both certificates from the funeral establishment.
3. If a parent wants a Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth and a funeral establishment was not involved in the disposition of a fetus, a hospital or midwife will complete their portion of the Certificate of Birth Resulting in Death and file both the Fetal Death certificate and the Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth with a local registrar or the State Registrar within three days of the delivery/birth. A parent may file an application for a certified copy of the certificate from the State Registrar once the State Registrar receives both certificate from a hospital or midwife.
4. The data collected from the Fetal Death Certificate is used to complete the Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth.
5. The Stillbirth certificate number is the same as the Fetal Death Certificate number.
6. Acknowledgement of Paternity is NOT required for a Certificate of Birth Resulting in Stillbirth.