IOWA | Health and Human Services

# Birth Certificate & Registration Fees

## Total Fees Due = $40.00

Check or money order payable to: *Iowa Department of Health and Human Services**
* unless your hospital has other payment options available.

Failure to pay the required registration fee is considered a misdemeanor under section 144.53 of the Code of Iowa.

### Certified Copy = $20

- Iowa law requires that an entitled birth mother be issued a certified birth certificate of her newborn's birth record. Effective July 1, 2026, the fee for a certified vital record is $20.
- The newborn's certified birth certificate is mailed to the birth mother within a few weeks after the birth record is registered by the hospital, using the mailing address provided on the Official Birth Mother's Worksheet to Establish the Legal Certificate of Live Birth.
- Parents are issued replacement certified copies at no cost if the record has been corrected due to typographical errors or paternity establishment. The parent must return the copy that contains errors or missing information to obtain a replacement.

### Registration = $20

- Iowa law requires that new parents register their newborn's birth certificate with the state Office of Vital Records for a fee of $10. These funds are appropriated to primary and secondary child abuse prevention programs.
- Iowa law requires an additional $10 registration fee. The additional funds are appropriated to the central registry established pursuant to section 136A.6 of the Iowa Code.

### Social Security Card = No Charge

- A social security card for the newborn is issued to the parents at no cost by indicating 'Yes' on the Official Birth Mother's Worksheet to Establish Legal Certificate of Live Birth worksheet. There is no further application required.
- The card is issued and sent directly from the Social Security Administration to the mailing address provided on the Official Birth Mother's Worksheet to Establish Legal Certificate of Live Birth worksheet. Social Security cards are not forwarded if the parents move.
- There is **no** cost associated with this service, as it is provided free of charge by the federal Social Security Administration in collaboration with the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services through the birth registration. Any companies offering this service for a fee are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration, the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services, or Iowa hospitals and health systems.
- Parents' social security numbers are required when registering their newborn's birth certificate. In accordance with 42 of the United States Code 405 (c)(2), as amended by Section 1090(b) of Public Law 105-34, which pertains to taxpayer relief provision, the law authorizes the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to use the social security numbers for determining Earned Income Tax Credit compliance on income tax returns. **The IRS may not share the information with any other agency**, including the Immigration and Naturalization Service.