

641—95.8(144) Direct tangible interest in and entitlement to a vital record. Certified copies of vital records may be issued by the state registrar or county registrar upon written application, payment of the required fee pursuant to paragraph 95.6(1) “a,” and demonstration of a verifiable, direct tangible interest and entitlement.

95.8(1) The following persons shall be considered to have a direct tangible interest and entitlement and are authorized to obtain a certified copy of a vital record:

a. The registrant, if the registrant is of legal age, has reached the age of majority, or is an emancipated minor.

b. A member of the registrant’s immediate legal family, including:

- (1) Current spouse or surviving spouse;
- (2) Children;
- (3) Mother or father if listed on the registrant’s birth certificate;
- (4) Sibling, if sibling has reached the age of majority;
- (5) Maternal grandparents, or paternal grandparents if the father is listed on the birth certificate; or
- (6) Step-parent or step-child if:
 1. Legal parent and step-parent are currently married at the time of application; or
 2. Step-parent is the surviving spouse of the legal parent and not remarried.

c. The documented legal representative of the registrant or the registrant’s immediate legal family, including:

- (1) An attorney;
- (2) A court-appointed guardian;
- (3) A foster parent;
- (4) A funeral director, for up to one year following the decedent’s date of death; or
- (5) A legal executor.

d. Other persons who demonstrate a direct tangible interest and entitlement when it is shown that the certified copy is needed to determine or protect a personal or property interest and the interest is for the benefit of the registrant.

95.8(2) The following persons shall not be deemed to have direct tangible interest and entitlement or be authorized to secure vital records:

a. Biological parents of adopted persons in the absence of a court order from the court of competent jurisdiction;

b. Biological family members of adopted persons;

c. Adopted persons requesting biological family records; or

d. Commercial firms or agencies requesting lists of vital record events, or lists of names, or lists of addresses, or that are not legal representatives requesting records on behalf of entitled individuals.

[ARC 0142D, IAB 3/18/26, effective 7/1/26]