641—96.18(144) Delayed birth registration—one year or more after event. All Iowa births registered one year or more after the date of the birth shall be prepared on a Delayed Certificate of Live Birth form. The state registrar will require documentary evidence to prove the facts of the birth pursuant to subrule 96.18(2). The delayed birth record will be registered and maintained solely at the state registrar's office.

96.18(1) *Application—certificate form.* A completed Delayed Certificate of Live Birth form shall be signed before a notary and filed with the state registrar by the following applicants in the indicated order of priority:

a. The registrant, if 18 years of age or older, whose birth occurred in Iowa but was not recorded within one year of the birth;

b. The registrant's parent or current legal court-appointed guardian; or

c. If no parent or legal guardian exists, a member of the registrant's family who has direct tangible interest and entitlement and who is competent to affirm to the accuracy of the information.

96.18(2) *Facts to be established.*

a. The applicant shall submit a notification of record search certified by the state registrar that will indicate that no prior certificate of live birth is on file for the person whose delayed birth record is to be filed. The notification of record search will be returned to the applicant and will not be exchanged for a certified copy of delayed certificate of live birth.

b. The applicant shall substantiate the following with documentary evidence:

(1) The full name of the registrant at the time of the birth, except that the delayed certificate may reflect the name established by adoption or legitimation when such evidence is submitted;

(2) The date and place of the birth;

(3) The full name of the mother prior to any marriage as it is listed on her birth certificate;

(4) The full name of the mother at the time of the birth; and

(5) The full name of the mother's legal spouse. However, if the mother was not married at the time of conception or birth or at any time during the period between conception and birth, the name of a second parent shall not be entered on the delayed certificate unless the child has been adopted or legitimated or parentage has been determined by a court of competent jurisdiction.

96.18(3) *Documentary evidence.*

a. To be acceptable for purposes of registration, the name of the registrant and the date and place of birth entered on a Delayed Certificate of Live Birth form shall be supported at a minimum by the following documentary evidence:

(1) Two pieces of dated documentary evidence if the Delayed Certificate of Live Birth form is filed within seven years after the registrant's date of birth; or

(2) Three pieces of dated documentary evidence if the Delayed Certificate of Live Birth form is filed seven years or more after the registrant's date of birth.

b. Each piece of documentary evidence must be from an independent source. Facts of parentage shall be supported by at least one of the documents.

c. Documentary evidence shall be in the form of the original record, a certified copy thereof, or a notarized statement from the custodian of the record or document on the custodian's letterhead.

d. All documentary evidence submitted shall consistently support the facts of birth to be established.

e. All documentary evidence shall have been executed at least five years prior to the date of filing or shall have been established prior to the registrant's seventh birthday.

f. Documents not acceptable to establish a delayed certificate of live birth include but are not limited to:

(1) Baptismal record,

(2) Confirmation record,

(3) Family bible entries,

(4) Hospital commemorative birth certificate,

(5) Crib card,

(6) Cradle roll,

(7) Baby book memento, and

(8) Personal affidavit.

96.18(4) *Abstraction and certification by the state registrar.* The state registrar will abstract on the Delayed Certificate of Live Birth form a description of each document submitted to support the facts of birth. This description will include:

a. The title or description of the document;

b. The name and address of the custodian who has attested to the fact on the original documents in the custodian's custody;

c. The date of the original filing of the document being abstracted; and

d. The information regarding the registrant's birth and parentage.

96.18(5) *Acceptance of documentary evidence for registration.*

a. The state registrar will by signature certify that:

(1) No prior certificate of live birth is on file for the person whose birth is to be recorded;

(2) The evidence has been reviewed and substantiates the alleged facts of the birth; and

(3) The abstract of the evidence appearing on the Delayed Certificate of Live Birth form accurately reflects the nature and content of the documents.

b. All documents submitted in support of the delayed registration of live birth will be returned to the applicant after review, abstraction, and registration.

96.18(6) *Denial of registration.*

a. When the applicant does not submit substantiating evidence or the state registrar finds reason to question the validity or adequacy of the evidence submitted to establish a delayed certificate of live birth, the state registrar will not register the delayed certificate of live birth. The written notice of refusal from the state registrar will include:

(1) The rejected form;

(2) The Delayed Birth Evidence Refusal form; and

(3) Information related to the applicant's right of appeal to the district court pursuant to Iowa Code sections 144.17 and 144.18.

b. The application to establish a delayed certificate of live birth will be dismissed if not actively pursued within six months of the date the notice of refusal was sent to the applicant.

96.18(7) *Duties of the county registrar.* The county registrar may assist the registrant, registrant's parent, or current court-appointed guardian in the completion and notarization of the delayed form, excluding the portion restricted for state use only. The county registrar may forward the form, documents and fees to the state registrar for final review and possible acceptance.

96.18(8) *Fees.* Administrative and certified copy fees will be charged as provided in rule 641—95.6(144).

[**ARC 0143D**, IAB 3/18/26, effective 7/1/26]