

Death records are confidential and not open to the general public, except for those that are at least 50 years old.

Who is entitled to obtain records:

- Informant listed on the death certificate;
- Parents/grandparents;
- Adult children/grandchildren;
- Adult siblings;
- Spouse; and
- Legal representatives (proof of legal representation also required).

Proof of relationship may also be required.

All requests must be accompanied by a valid ID as listed below. The acceptable documents listed may change without prior notice. For mail requests, a photocopy of the document is sufficient, please do not send the original.

Submit one (1) document from the primary list OR two (2) documents from the secondary list.

Primary Documents

- DMV-issued driver's license unexpired or expired for not more than five years;
- DMV-issued learner's/instruction permit unexpired or expired for not more than five years;
- DMV-issued photo identification card (excluding child ID cards) unexpired or expired for not more than one year;
- Current Photo ID card, (school and employment). Check Cashing Cards are not acceptable;
- Unexpired U.S. military ID card of an active duty or retired member (ID cards of military dependents are not acceptable as primary identity documents);
- U.S. Passport unexpired or expired for not more than five years;
- West Virginia Criminal Justice Agency Offender Information Form; or
- United States Probation Offender Information Form

Secondary Documents (Require two of below selections)

- Social Security Card
- A utility bill (phone, electric, gas, water, etc.) with your name and current address;
- Automobile registration with your name and current address;
- Automobile insurance card with your name and current address;
- Voter's Registration Card with your name and current address;
- Checking account deposit slip or bank statement stating name and current address;
- Paycheck stub or a W-2 form with your name and current address;
- U.S. Selective Service Card;
- U.S. military discharge papers (form DD214);
- Health care insurance card;
- Unexpired welfare/social services identification card with photo, issued by a municipality;
- Unexpired weapons or gun permit issued by federal, state or municipal government; or
- Veterans' Universal Access Identification Card.