

Birth Registry

Q.A. Bulletin

This bulletin is issued by the Arizona Department of Health Services Office of Vital Records as part of a continuing effort to improve the quality, completeness and accuracy of data submitted to the State's Vital Records System.

If you have any questions, please call us at 602-364-0042.

HIPAA – Vital Records is Exempt!

45 CFR 164.512; A.R.S. §36-132.A.3

The following information is to help parents and health care providers better understand the role of Vital Records and why the collection of complete, accurate birth data is important.

All information submitted to Vital Records for registering a birth is strictly confidential. The responsibility of collecting complete and accurate information for each submitted birth record is an extremely important function. The State Office of Vital Records appreciates the dedicated work ethic demonstrated by birth recorders, midwives and county vital records offices in this regard. All data submitted for a birth record is analyzed by statisticians for the purpose of implementing programs and policies that actively promote the health and well-being of Arizona families.

The Arizona Department of Health Services, Office of Vital Records, certifies that it is a public health authority and health oversight agency as mandated by the State of Arizona. As such, federal law (45 CFR 164.512), including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), does not relieve any individual, hospital or birthing facility from a continuing duty to report or disclose public health information.

HIPAA permits disclosure of protected health information and related records to a public health authority for public health and health oversight activities. In addition, HIPAA permits disclosure of protected health information as required by law. These disclosures are permitted without authorization by the individual who is the subject of the protected health information (45 CFR 164.512).

The Office of Vital Records has the authority to “collect, preserve, tabulate and interpret all information required by law in reference to births, deaths and all vital facts, and obtain, collect and preserve information relating to the health of the people of the state and the prevention of diseases ...” (A.R.S. § 36-132.A.3)