



Birth of a child in Canada to unmarried parents: Registration in the Swiss civil status register

20.09.2023

Documents to be submitted

Civil status documents can be very different from each other. In case the parents of a child are not married, the birth certificate must contain information about paternal recognition. Please submit **only** the document listed below, original format, issued within the last 6 months:

- Alberta:** "[Photocopy of a Registration of Birth](#)"
- British Columbia:** "[Certified Copy of a Birth Registration](#)" or "[Certified Electronic Birth Extract](#)"
- Nunavut:** "[Long form Birth Certificate](#)"
- Manitoba:** "[Certified Copy of Registration](#)" (this is not a birth certificate)
- Newfoundland and Labrador / New Brunswick:** "[Long form Birth Certificate](#)" and "[Declaration of birth](#)"
- Nova Scotia:** "[Certificate Photocopy of the Birth Registration](#)" and "[Declaration of birth](#)"
- Northwest Territories:** "[Restricted Photocopy of the Birth Registration](#)"
- Ontario:** "[Statement of Live Birth](#)"
- Prince Edward Island:** "[Certified Copy of Registration of Birth](#)"
- Québec:** "[Copie d'un acte de naissance](#)"
- Saskatchewan:** "[Copy of Registration of Live Birth](#)"
- Yukon:** "[Restricted Photocopy of the Birth Registration](#)"

Additional documents

- copy of the child's Canadian passport, if available
- [Affidavit \(PDF\)](#): solemn declaration concerning the civil status and legal residence of the parents at the time of the child's birth, to be certified by a notary (documents sworn by a commissioner of oaths will not be accepted)

For the parent of foreign nationality not yet registered in Swiss civil status register:

- original birth certificate with filiation of the parents, issued within the last 6 months (if the spouse was born in another country, follow the instructions under "additional information")
- if divorced: divorce certificate and first page of the court order/decreed (original documents)
- if widowed: death certificate (original document)
- copy of valid passport or other identity document

For the parent of foreign nationality already registered (on the occasion of a previous marriage or the birth of a child, for example) in the Swiss civil status register:

copy of valid passport or other identity document

Translation

Documents that are not in a Swiss national language or in English must be translated into one of these languages.

Additional Information

Civil status documents can be obtained from the [civil status office](#) of the province of birth. Photocopies, scanned copies, faxes or carbon copies of these original documents are not accepted. Neither are birth certificates issued more than six months ago.

If you wish to have your original documents returned to you, please enclose a pre-paid, self-addressed envelope, otherwise they will be sent to Switzerland.

If the spouse was born in another country, please check with the Swiss representation in that country to find out which documents to submit for legalization. Foreign civil status documents must be legalized by the competent Swiss diplomatic or consular representation and the requirements differ from a country to another.

An [Affidavit](#) represents a solemn declaration concerning the civil status of the parents at the time of the child's birth. This must be certified by a notary (public) only. Documents sworn by a commissioner of oaths or otherwise will not be accepted by the authorities in Switzerland.

It may take three to six months to register your child's birth.

Please note that the Consulates are not able to send **confirmations of registration** or **confirmations of receipt** of your documents. If you do not receive a reply from your representation after sending your documents, you can assume that the transcription of the event is in progress and that the registration will follow automatically. If you wish to order a passport for your child following the registration with the Swiss authorities, please wait at least three months before submitting an application via www.schweizerpass.ch / www.passeportsuisse.ch