

Fact Sheet

Information About the Stillbirth Package Application, New Commemorative Document and Available Support and Resources

This fact sheet is designed to provide bereaved parents with information on the new Stillbirth Package application and additional resources and information on support during this difficult time.

A stillbirth in Ontario is recognized as the loss of a baby after the 20-week mark of pregnancy, or at a weight of more than 500 grams.

Support Services and Peer Programs

Grieving families may find comfort in the connection with others who share their loss experience. [Pregnancy and Infant Loss \(PAIL\) Network](#) provides peer support to any family across Ontario, at no cost. This support can be provided online, over the phone or in-person. Language interpretation is available upon request.

The Pregnancy and Infant Loss (PAIL Network) also provides education and resources for families, professionals, and communities to better understand the unique needs of families who are grieving the loss of their baby.

What is available through a Stillbirth Package?

Certain documents are available for all parents where the stillbirth has been registered in Ontario.

These documents are optional, and can be ordered together as a package, or individually, at no charge.

A Stillbirth Package contains four documents available upon request, and at no cost to families:

- Commemorative document of stillbirth
- Certified copy of stillbirth registration
- Certified copy of stillbirth registration with medical information
- Search letter for stillbirth registration

A commemorative document is used for remembrance purposes only and is not a legal document. A certified copy of stillbirth registration is a record of a stillbirth containing the details of a stillbirth that took place in Ontario, and may be used to access programs and services. These documents are only available to parent(s) listed on the stillbirth registration.

To learn more about what's included in each of the four documents, and who may apply, refer to Ontario.ca/StillbirthPackage

When to request a Search for stillbirth registration?

A search letter is often used if you are unsure if a child's stillbirth has been registered. Using the same Stillbirth Package application, you can select "Search letter" to confirm whether your stillbirth was registered.

Applicants requesting a search must state their reason for the request within the application.

Please note that prior to 1944, stillbirths in Ontario were often registered as a death, birth, or both as stillbirth registrations were not available until 1944.

How do I apply for the Stillbirth Package?

You can apply for the Stillbirth Package online or by mail. Only parent(s) listed on the stillbirth registration may apply for a commemorative document of stillbirth registration or certified copy of stillbirth registration (with or without medical information). See Instruction #1 and #2 within the stillbirth package application for more information.

Online

Applying for the stillbirth package online is a 2-step process:

- Step 1: Download, complete, and save the [Stillbirth Package](#) application.
 - If applying on behalf of the parents, applicant details pertain to the person filling in the form. Parent details pertain to the parents of the stillborn.
- Step 2: Upload your completed Stillbirth Package application online through a **Request certificate services (without payment)** at: Ontario.ca/IDforms
 - Upload the completed application (Stillbirth Package) in Section 4 of Request certificate services (without payment).

By mail

You may submit your completed application by mail to:

Service Ontario
Office of the Registrar General
Attn: Service Delivery Manager
189 Red River Road
PO Box 4600
Thunder Bay ON P7B 6L8

Cost and delivery

A request for the Stillbirth Package will take approximately 6-8 weeks plus delivery to complete. Due to the nature of some of these requests, it may take longer to locate certain records.

As of October 15, 2024, the Government of Ontario has removed all fees associated with stillbirth documents, making it easier for families to get access.