

How to obtain a birth certificate?

The birth of a child is a joyful and decisive event. As parents-to-be, you will certainly have many questions.

Please note that the following information only applies to the Offenburg registry office.

Do you have a foreign nationality or foreign documents?

If you are a foreign national or have foreign documents, please contact the registry office **during pregnancy** so that we can advise you individually and the birth can be quickly recorded by the registry office. If you do not have sufficient command of the German language, please bring an interpreter to every visit to the registry office.

In some cases, you will have to apply for new documents from abroad, as without these documents the birth of your child cannot be registered. The procurement of these documents often takes a lot of time. It is therefore advisable to apply for the certificate before the birth. We will gladly advise you in this matter.

It is required that all foreign documents are translated into German by a certified translator. You can find approved translators at www.justiz-dolmetscher.de.

If you're not married...

...the father of your child can only be entered on the birth certificate if he acknowledges paternity. This declaration is possible and also recommended before the birth of your child.

The recognition of paternity must be declared before the youth welfare office or registry office. In order for the recognition of paternity to be effective, it is necessary that you, as the mother of the child, agree to it. You can only declare recognition and consent in person at the youth welfare office or registry office. At the youth welfare office, you also have the possibility to declare joint custody. This is also possible before the birth of your child.

Please note...

...that the birth certificate of your child can only be issued, if all necessary original documents are available. As soon as you have the birth certificate, you can apply for parental and child benefits. In your own interest, you should have the documents ready before the child is born and take them with you to the hospital.