AFTER

FLORIDA — STATE AND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

Ordering a death certificate in Florida

Florida issues death certificates through the Bureau of Vital Statistics in Jacksonville and through county health departments. Here's how to order, and how to choose a copy with or without cause of death.



A guide from After

BEFORE YOU START

What you'll need, and **what to know first**

Order from the state Bureau of Vital Statistics, or from a county health department for deaths from 2009 to the present. First decide which copy you need: without cause of death, which any adult can order, or with cause of death, which is limited to close family and people with a documented interest.

COST BY MAIL OR WALK-IN

$5 first copy, $4 each additional

COST ONLINE

$15 state fee plus a $7 VitalChek fee

Have these ready before you begin — most of the process is just entering this.

- ✓ Your loved one's full name, sex, and date of death
- ✓ Their date of birth and Social Security number, if you know them
- ✓ The city or county where they died
- ✓ Your relationship to your loved one
- ✓ A valid photo ID, if you're requesting cause of death
- ✓ A credit card to order online, or a check or money order by mail

Good to know: the $5 search fee is non-refundable. The state's application notes that a Clerk of Circuit Court won't accept a death record with cause of death when filing probate, so ask each organization which version it needs.

HOW TO ORDER

Three ways **to apply**

Option A — **Online or by phone**

1. **Order through VitalChek**

   VitalChek is the only vendor contracted by the Florida Department of Health. Order at vitalchek.com or call 1-877-550-7330.

   floridahealth.gov/certificates-records/death-certificates

2. **Pay by credit card**

   $15 state fee for the first certificate, which includes a $10 rush fee, plus a $7 VitalChek fee and $4 for each additional certificate. UPS shipping costs extra.

3. **Allow for processing**

   Normal processing for deaths from 2009 to the present is 3 to 5 business days, not including shipping. Earlier records take longer.

Option B — **By mail, to the state**

1. **Complete form DH 727, the death certificate application**

   Sign it yourself if you're requesting cause of death.

2. **Add your payment and a copy of your ID**

   $5 for the first copy, $4 for each additional, and $1 shipping and handling. Add $10 and write RUSH on the envelope for priority processing. Copy the front and back of your photo ID when requesting cause of death.

3. **Mail it to the Bureau of Vital Statistics**

   MAIL TO

   Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics
   P.O. Box 210, Jacksonville, FL 32231-0042

Option C — **In person**

Walk in to the state office at 1217 N. Pearl Street, Jacksonville, Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or visit a county health department. County offices issue certificates for Florida deaths from 2009 to the present, and their fees vary.

COUNTY OFFICES

Hillsborough and **Miami-Dade counties**

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY (TAMPA)

- ✓ **Cost:** $10 per death certificate.
- ✓ **In person or by mail:** University Area Vital Statistics office, Monday to Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Mail requests to Florida Department of Health in Hillsborough County, Attn: Vital Statistics, P.O. Box 5135, Tampa, FL 33675-5135.
- ✓ **Bring or send:** the county death certificate application, the fee, and a legible copy of your photo ID.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

- ✓ **Cost:** $20 for the first certificate, $16 for each additional, and $10 for rush service.
- ✓ **In person:** the Downtown, North Dade, and West Perrine offices, Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. No appointment needed.

ELIGIBILITY

Who can request **cause of death**

Any adult can order a Florida death certificate without cause of death. For 50 years after the death, a copy with cause of death goes only to:

- ✓ Your loved one's spouse or parent
- ✓ A child, grandchild, or sibling who is 18 or older
- ✓ Anyone with a will, insurance policy, or other document showing an interest in the estate
- ✓ Someone acting on behalf of one of these people, or anyone with a court order

Good to know: if you're not on this list, an eligible person can sign a notarized Affidavit to Release Cause of Death Information (form DH 1959) for you. Send it with copies of both photo IDs.

IDENTIFICATION

Accepted **photo ID**

- ✓ A driver's license, state ID card, passport, or military ID card
- ✓ By mail, send a copy of the front and back
- ✓ Records before 2009 are issued as photocopy certificates and take extra time

COMMON QUESTIONS

Any questions? **We've got answers**

I don't know the exact date or details of the death.

Reach out to your Care Specialist at After — we can look that up and provide it for you.

What if there's an error on the certificate itself?

Florida handles corrections through an amendment application with a $20 processing fee. Reach out to your Care Specialist — we can help you get started.

Can I use a different website to order?

The state says VitalChek is its only contracted online vendor.

What if the death didn't happen in Florida?

Order from the vital records office in the state where the death took place.

We're here if **you need us**

Ordering paperwork while you're grieving is hard. You don't have to figure it out alone — call any time, day or night.

844-905-2639 care@after.com after.com

Fees and timing checked November 10, 2026 against floridahealth.gov and its Hillsborough and Miami-Dade county pages. Agencies change them, so confirm before you order. We provide cremation services only where we hold the required state licenses.