



**AFFIDAVIT OF HOMELESS STATUS  
FOR CERTIFIED COPY OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE**

Pursuant to SDCL 34-25-63, the South Dakota Department of Health must provide, at no cost, a certified copy of a person’s South Dakota birth certificate, limited to one, upon application and proof of homelessness. The person or the person's spouse, child, parent, guardian, next of kin, or authorized representative may apply for a certified copy of the person's birth certificate. An affidavit may not be accepted unless signed by the person experiencing homelessness and a homeless services provider with knowledge of the individuals housing status.

**SECTION I – To be completed by the individual experiencing homelessness**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ swear or affirm, to the best of my knowledge and belief that on the date listed below, I am a person experiencing homelessness and am eligible to receive a fee exempt certified copy of my South Dakota birth certificate.

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_, South Dakota

I understand that by signing this affidavit, the information that I provided is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTARY  
SEAL**

Subscribed to and sworn before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

Signature of Notary Public: \_\_\_\_\_ My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION II – to be completed by a homeless services provider**

Name of Homeless Services Provider: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ swear or affirm, to the best of my knowledge and belief that on the date listed below in this section, \_\_\_\_\_ is a person who is currently experiencing homelessness and that I meet the requirements of a homeless service provider as defined within South Dakota codified law 34-25-63. I understand that by signing this affidavit, the information that I provided is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Homeless Service Provider: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTARY  
SEAL**

Subscribed to and sworn before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

Signature of Notary Public: \_\_\_\_\_ My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

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**INFORMATION**

- A fee exempt copy of a birth certificate may be obtained from any county Register of Deeds office in South Dakota or from the Office of Vital Records
- The issuance of a fee exempt birth certificate is limited to one per lifetime.
- Requests for fee exempt copies are still subject to standard application requirements and all applicants must complete the applicable South Dakota Vital Records Request application and provide applicable identification as stated on the application.
- A fee exempt birth certificate request may be made by the person, the person's spouse, child, parent, guardian, next of kin, or an authorized representative.
- An Affidavit of Homeless Status for Certified Copy of Birth Certificate may not be accepted as proof of homeless unless the affidavit is signed by both the person experiencing homelessness and a homeless service provider with knowledge of the person's housing status.

**HOMELESS SERVICE PROVIDER**

The term homeless service provider means:

- Any government or nonprofit agency that provides a food bank
- Homeless shelter
- Housing assistance program
- Homeless outreach or advocacy program (or another similar program)
- Any Human Services or Social Services agency, public or private, that provides health services, behavioral health services, substance abuse disorder services, or employment/public assistance services
- Any law enforcement officer designated as a liaison to the homeless population by a local police department or sheriff's office

**STATUTE**

**SDCL 34-25-63 An Act to provide free birth certificates to persons experiencing homelessness**

Notwithstanding § 34-25-52, the department must provide, at no cost, a certified copy of a person's South Dakota birth certificate, limited to one, upon application and proof of that person's homelessness. The person or the person's spouse, child, parent, guardian, next of kin, or authorized representative may apply for a certified copy of the person's birth certificate pursuant to this section.

An affidavit developed by the department attesting to the person's housing status is proof of homelessness for the purposes of this section. The department may not accept an affidavit as proof of homelessness unless signed by the person experiencing homelessness and a homeless services provider with knowledge of the person's housing status. For the purposes of this section, the term "homeless services provider" means any government or nonprofit agency that provides a food bank, homeless shelter, housing assistance program, homeless outreach or advocacy program, or any similar program; any human services or social services agency, public or private, providing health services, behavioral health services, substance use disorder services, or employment or public assistance services to homeless persons; or any law enforcement officer designated as a liaison to the homeless population by a local police department or sheriff's department.