

## Replacing Important Papers

After a disaster, important papers may be destroyed, lost, or damaged. Following is information on how to replace your important papers.

### Birth and Death Certificates

To replace a birth or death certificate for U.S. citizens who were born or died in the United States, visit <http://www.vitalrec.com> or call:

**Minnesota:** 651-201-5970  
**North Dakota:** 701-328-2360  
**South Dakota:** 605-773-4961  
**Iowa:** 515-281-4944  
**Wisconsin:** 608-266-1371

For birth records of U.S. citizens born abroad, visit [http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first\\_828.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first_828.html) or request a copy of Form FS-240 (Consular Report of Birth Abroad) from:

U.S. Department of State  
Passport Services  
Vital Records Section  
1111 19th Street, NW, Suite 510  
Washington DC 20522-1705

This address is also used to obtain a “Report of the Death of an American Citizen Abroad” form for U.S. citizens who died abroad.

### Citizenship and Naturalization Papers

For papers related to citizenship, immigration, permanent residency (green card), re-entry permit, employment authorization, etc., visit <http://uscis.gov/graphics/forms-fee/forms/n-565.htm>. Complete Form N-565. You may also contact your county court house.

### Credit Cards

**American Express:** 800-528-4800  
**Discover:** 800-347-2683  
(TDD/TTY – 800-347-7449)

**Master Card:** Contact issuing financial institution or 800-622-7747.

**Visa:** Contact issuing financial institution or 800-847-2911.

### Driver Licenses or State ID Cards

The quickest way to obtain a duplicate driver license is to apply in person at any state department of motor vehicles (called different names in different states). You will need to complete an application for a license or identification card, which may be accessed at:

**Minnesota:** [mndriveinfo.org](http://mndriveinfo.org)  
**North Dakota:** <http://www.dot.nd.gov/formsbytitle.htm>  
**South Dakota:** [http://dps.sd.gov/licensing/driver\\_licensingapplications](http://dps.sd.gov/licensing/driver_licensingapplications)  
**Iowa:** <http://www.iadotforms.dot.state.ia.us>  
**Wisconsin:** <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/forms/>

### Income Tax Returns

Call the nearest IRS office, or call 1-800-829-3676 and request Form 4506 (“Request for Copy of Tax Return”). To find your local IRS office, go to:

**Minnesota:** [www.irs.gov/localcontacts/article/0,,id=98289,00.html](http://www.irs.gov/localcontacts/article/0,,id=98289,00.html)  
**North Dakota:** [www.irs.gov/localcontacts/article/0,,id=98321,00.html](http://www.irs.gov/localcontacts/article/0,,id=98321,00.html)  
**South Dakota:** [www.irs.gov/localcontacts/article/0,,id=98333,00.html](http://www.irs.gov/localcontacts/article/0,,id=98333,00.html)  
**Iowa:** [www.irs.gov/localcontacts/article/0,,id=98276,00.html](http://www.irs.gov/localcontacts/article/0,,id=98276,00.html)  
**Wisconsin:** [www.irs.gov/localcontacts/article/0,,id=98349,00.html](http://www.irs.gov/localcontacts/article/0,,id=98349,00.html)

## Insurance Policies

Contact the agent or company providing coverage. You may be required to complete a form, pay a fee for duplicate copies, or both. The policy number will expedite this request.

## Marriage Certificates and Divorce Records

Copies of certificates of marriage are available from the county that issued the marriage license, and divorce decrees are available from the county that granted the divorce. For ordering and fee information, please contact the local registrar in the county where the marriage certificate was issued or the divorce granted.

To learn where to obtain vital records, including marriage certificates and divorce degrees, contact the National Center for Health Statistics at: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/howto/w2w/w2welcom.htm>.

## Military Discharge Papers

Request Standard Form 180 (SF-180) from any office of the Veterans Administration, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Red Cross, a veterans' association, or military recruiter. You may also download the form from: [http://www.archives.gov/facilities/mo/st\\_louis/military\\_personnel\\_records/standard\\_form\\_180.html](http://www.archives.gov/facilities/mo/st_louis/military_personnel_records/standard_form_180.html).

Fax the completed form to 314-801-9195 or mail it to:

National Personnel Records Center  
Military Personnel Records  
9700 Page Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5011

To find out if you are eligible for veterans' benefits, how to apply, and what it will cost. Call the VA Health Benefits Service Center at 877-222-8387. You may be able to complete an application form online.

## Mortgage Papers

Contact your lending institution (mortgage holder).

## Passports

Complete form DS-64 (Statement Regarding Lost or Stolen Passport) from [http://travel.state.gov/passport/lost/us/us\\_848.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/lost/us/us_848.html).

Mail it to:

U.S. Department of State  
Passport Services  
Consular Lost/Stolen Passport Section  
1111 19th Street, NW, Suite 500  
Washington DC 20036

## Property Deeds

Contact the Clerk of Court in the county where the property is located.

## Savings Bonds/Notes

Call 304-480-7527 or visit <http://www.publicdebt.treas.gov/forms/sav1048.pdf> and complete Form PDF 1048E (Claim for Lost, Stolen or Destroyed U. S. Savings Bonds).

To replace Series HH/H Bonds, mail the completed form to:

Bureau of the Public Debt  
P.O. Box 7012  
Parkersburg, WV 26106-2188

To replace Series EE/E Bonds, mail the completed form to:

Bureau of the Public Debt  
P.O. Box 7012  
Parkersburg, WV 26106-7012

## Social Security Card

Visit <https://secure.ssa.gov/apps6z/FOLO/fo001.jsp> to find your local Social Security Administration office. Obtain Form SS-5 (Application for Social Security Card) from this office or download it from: <http://www.ssa.gov/online/ss-5.html>. Follow the instructions to complete the form.

For additional help, contact the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213, or write:

Office of Public Inquiries  
Social Security Administration  
Windsor Park Building  
6401 Security Blvd.  
Baltimore, MD 21235

## Vehicle Titles

Contact your state's department of motor vehicles; find it at <http://www.4dmv.com/>.

Complete a "Vehicle Application" form. Submit to the address given on the form.

## Wills

Contact the attorney who prepared your will. If circumstances have changed, you may need to write a new will.

## Additional Information About This Document

All contact information was verified at the time of last revision of this publication (March 2011). However, this information is subject to change, so always confirm its accuracy on your own.

The information in this section was originally compiled by Jeanette A. Tucker, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Family Economics, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center. (April 2006).

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