



Birth of a child in The Bahamas to unmarried parents: Registration in the Swiss civil status register

7.2025

Documents to be submitted

Documents submitted must be originals and must be issued within the last 6 months. Civil status certificates/acts can be obtained from [the Registrar General's Department](#) and must be authenticated and apostilled by [the Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Consular Division](#).

- Birth Certificate** (Certified Copy of Entry in Register of Births) with Apostille

Additional documents

- copy of the child's Canadian passport, if available
- [Affidavit \(PDF\)](#): solemn declaration concerning the civil status and legal residence of the parents at the time of the child's birth, to be certified by a notary (documents sworn by a commissioner of oaths will not be accepted)

For the parent of foreign nationality not yet registered in Swiss civil status register:

- original birth certificate (Certified Copy of Entry in a Register of Births) with Apostille (if the spouse was born in another country, follow the instructions under "additional information")
- if divorced: divorce decree with date of enforcement (original document)
- if widowed: death certificate (original document)
- copy of valid passport or other identity document

For the parent of foreign nationality already registered (on the occasion of a previous marriage or the birth of a child, for example) in the Swiss civil status register:

- copy of valid passport or other identity document

Translation

Documents that are not in a Swiss national language or in English must be translated into one of these languages.

Additional Information

If the spouse was born in another country, please check with the Swiss representation in that country to find out which documents to submit for legalization. Foreign civil status documents must be legalized by the competent Swiss diplomatic or consular representation and the requirements differ from a country to another.

An [Affidavit](#) represents a solemn declaration concerning the civil status of the parents at the time of the child's birth. This must be certified by a notary (public) only. Documents sworn by a commissioner of oaths or otherwise will not be accepted by the authorities in Switzerland.

Please note that the Consulates are not able to send **confirmations of registration** or **confirmations of receipt** of your documents. If you do not receive a reply from your representation after sending your documents, you can assume that the transcription of the event is in progress and that the registration will follow automatically.