**Get a death certificate**

You can apply for a death certificate at any time, but it cannot be issued until a death is registered.

You may need an original or certified copy of this certificate to:

* settle an estate
* access insurance benefits
* access or cancel certain government services (e.g., health card, pension)
* research a family tree

**Who can request:**next of kin, an executor or estate administrator.

## Death Registration

A funeral director usually oversees the process of registering a death.

To register a death, a funeral director submits 2 documents to a municipal clerk’s office:

**A Medical Certificate of Death:** the attending doctor or a coroner completes this form, outlining the cause of death.

**A Statement of Death:** a family member and a funeral director complete this form, together. It includes personal information about the deceased (e.g., family history, age at death, place of death).

Information that is gathered about causes of death can be used for medical/health research or statistics.

**THEREFORE A DEATH CERTIFICATE CANNOT BE ISSUED ON THE DATE OF THE DEATH TO FAMILIES UNTIL THE PAPERWORK HAS BEEN FILED BY THE FUNERAL DIRECTOR. ONCE INFORMATION IS COMPLETED, THE FAMILY CAN APPLY FOR A DEATH CERTIFICATE WHICH THE FORM HAS BEEN SUPPLIED IN THIS BINDER.**