

Genealogy Records and Resources

What types of records are available from the New York State Department of Health for genealogy research?

Vital records registration started in New York State in 1881. Generally, the New York State Department of Health provides uncertified copies of the following types of records for genealogy purposes:

- Birth certificates – if on file for at least 75 years and the person whose name is on the birth certificate is known to be deceased
- Death certificates – if on file for at least 50 years

Are the time periods ever waived?

The time periods are waived for direct-line descendants. A direct-line descendant is a person who is in the direct line of descent from the decedent such as a child, grandchild, or great-grandchild. The direct line applicant must provide the following:

- Proof of their relationship to the person whose record they are requesting
- Proof of the death of the person whose birth certificate they are requesting

Records are available as listed below:

TOWN	BIRTHS (start date)	DEATHS (start date)
Brighton	1881	1881
Brockport	1904	1904
Charlotte	1889	1889
Chili	1884	1884
Churchville	1934	1934
Clarkson	9/1882	3/1883
E Rochester	3/1907	3/19/1907
Fairport	7/18/1887	7/26/1887
Gates	1892 (some records from 1848-1850)	1892
Greece	1882 (some records from 1848-1849)	1884 (some records from 1848)
Hamlin	1885	1885
Henrietta	5/23/1882	5/28/1882
Hilton	9/24/1890	5/6/1890
Honeoye Falls	1919	1919
Irondequoit	1847(excluding 1852-1887)	1847
Mendon	1882	1882
Ogden	1882	1882
Parma	1882	1888
Penfield	4/8/1878	3/25/1882
Perinton	1881 (some records from 1848-1850)	1881
Pittsford	1882	1882
Riga	1882	1882
Rochester (city)	1875	1873
Rush	1892	1892
Scottsville	1915	1915
Spencerport	1914	1914
Sweden	1882	1882
Webster (village)	9/24/1906	2/11/1907
Webster (town)	11/6/1877	12/23/1883
Wheatland	1882	1882

For access to records not listed above:

For Birth/Death records from 1881:

NYS DOH Vital Records
Genealogy Unit
800 Pearl Street
Albany, NY 12220

For Birth/Death Records prior to 1881:

City, Town or Village offices
County Historian

Rochester Records Index available at:

Central Library*
115 South Avenue
Rochester, New York

*Includes data for entire state outside of NYC
Records starting from 1880

An alphabetical index book lists, by year, the microfiche index card and will contain such information as name, date, county and certificate number of the records you are seeking is available online at:

<http://www.archives.nysed.gov/>

Online Genealogy Resources:

www.genealogytoday.com

www.familytree.com

www.rootsweb.com

www.familysearch.org

What is the fee for a genealogy copy?

The standard fee for each genealogy search is \$22.00. This includes a copy of the certificate or a transcript, or a no record found report.

How long will it take?

Processing a genealogy request may take up to four to six weeks to complete.

How do I place an order?

Mail your completed [application](#) to:

Office of Vital Records
Genealogy Unit
740 East Henrietta Rd.
Rochester, NY 14623

The application is available to download, and you can type the information directly into the form or print a copy to complete manually. Make sure you sign the application and include a check or money order for the appropriate amount with your application.

If you prefer, we can send a hard copy of the form to you. You may call 585-753-5135 to make a request for the application.