

## GENEALOGY RESEARCH INFORMATION

Fannin County has birth & death records on file from 1903 to the present date. Delayed birth records date back to the late 1800's. Delayed birth records were issued to the person later in life, not at birth.

Birth records are confidential and are not open to the public for the first 75 years after date of filing. Death records are also confidential and are not open to the public for the first 25 years after date of filing. During these periods, both may only be released to a properly qualified applicant.

(HSC Sec. 191.051; 25 TAC Sec: 1:Sl.1; GC 552.115)

Properly qualified applicant: A legal representative, personal representative or agent, an immediate family member, or the registrant, who has a direct or tangible interest in the record and who shall have a significant legal relationship to the person whose record is being requested. The purpose for which the certified copy is needed and the relationships of the applicant to the registrant are essential to the application to determine if the applicant is properly qualified.

REGISTRANT-The individual named on the certificate of birth, death or fetal death.

IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER-A person's parent(s), child, sibling(s), spouse, grandparent, legal guardian or conservator.

LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE: Personal representative or agent. Any individual, attorney, funeral director, or other representative acting under contract for the requester, when the requester is not the applicant; or is one bearing an affidavit, authorizing that person, agent, genealogist, or other representative to make application on behalf of the registrant or member of the immediate family for the record or information requested.

An application form for each record must be completed before a certificate will be issued.

The following information is required to locate a birth or death certificate:

- 1. Person's full name at birth (if female the maiden)
- 2. Date of birth or date of death
- 3. Parents names (include mother's maiden name, if known)
- 4. City of birth or death
- 5. Applicant's relationship to the person and photocopy of identification

A birth certificate search is \$23.00 per search and includes a certified copy if a record is found. If the person was not born in Fannin County, contact the County the birth took place in, if the birth certificate is needed for a passport.

The cost of a Death Certificate is \$21.00 for the first copy and \$4.00 for each additional copy of the same certificate ordered at the same time.

If the person died in another county, contact the county where the person died to obtain the record. Certified copies are the only types of certificates the county can issue. The certificates will be printed on security paper as required by the state with the seal at the bottom next to the county clerk's signature.

If the county is unable to locate a copy of the certificate, send a request to the Bureau of Vital Statistics in Austin, Texas. The address is Bureau of Vital Statistics, 1100 W. 49th Street, Austin Texas 78756-319, <u>www.dshs.texas.gov/vital-statistics/death-records</u>. Research can also been done through the Texas State Library and Archives, P.O. Box 12927, Austin, Texas 78711-2927, www.tsi.state.tx.us/arc/genfirst.html

In Fannin County marriage records on file are from 1852 to present. The records are indexed by the male's last name and are open to the public.

The following information is required to locate a marriage record:

- 1. The man's full name.
- 2. The woman's full name (The name used at the time of marriage)
- 3. Date of marriage

Certified one page copies are \$6.00. If unsure of the marriage date, a 10-year period will be searched for at a cost of \$10.00 per name. In this office the licenses will only be those issued by Fannin County. If the license was not purchased by this county, contact the county clerk's office of the county where it was purchased. Marriage verifications are obtained through Texas Vital Statistics online at Texas.gov.

If unable to locate the records at the county level, contact the Bureau of Vital Statistics, 1100 W. 49th Street, Austin Texas 78756-319, <u>www.dshs.texas.gov/vital-statistics/death-records</u> or the Texas State Library & Archives for the records starting in 1966.