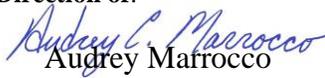


STATE REGISTRAR NOTICE

Subject: EDRS Only Local Registration Districts	Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Transitory	Number: 2021-02
Date Issued: January 4, 2021 Date Effective: January 4, 2021	Audience: All Death Stakeholders	By Direction of:  Audrey Marrocco State Registrar

The Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries (BHSR) is authorizing local registrars¹ the opportunity to designate their office as an “EDRS Only Local Registration District”. Local registrars choosing to provide EDRS only services can only register and issue death certificates from reports of death submitted through the Electronic Death Registration System (EDRS).

All districts must continue to accept paper Reports of Fetal Death since fetal deaths are not reported through EDRS at this time.

Phase Out of Anamorphic Reduction to Death Certificates

Paper-reported deaths and the current image used by local registrars to print EDRS-reported death certificates requires copier technology that supports anamorphic reduction. Anamorphic reduction is required to properly reduce the 8.5” x 14” report of death on to the 8.5” x 11” death certificate security stock. As the printer industry continues to evolve, this old technology is rapidly being phased out. As such, the cost to maintain copiers with anamorphic reduction functionality is expensive and difficult to achieve. Acquiring new printers with anamorphic reduction functionality is equally as challenging and expensive.

With close to 99% of Pennsylvania’s deaths reported through EDRS, the need for local registrars to continue investing in copiers that provide anamorphic reduction is no longer necessary. As such, BHSR is redesigning the local registrars’ workflow in EDRS so that they will print the death certificate directly from EDRS without any reduction to the image. This new workflow will enable local registrars to issue death certificates similar in design as those issued directly by BHSR. Once a local registrar is trained on this new workflow, they will be able to print directly from EDRS using a monochrome laser printer.

Improved Readability of Death Certificates

The anamorphic reduction process results in text that is reduced in a nonproportional manner. While this type of reduction enables text to remain at a larger scale, the text may become distorted and difficult to read.

¹ Local registrars are defined as individuals that have been appointed as a local registrar or an assistant registrar, and deputy registrars that are appointed by a local registrar.

The new death certificate design improves the overall readability of this important legal document.

How to Elect to Become an “EDRS Only Local Registration Districts”

Local registrars interested in becoming an “EDRS Only Local Registration District” must complete the attached “Request to Become an EDRS Only Local Registration District” form. Local registrars will transition to an “EDRS Only Local Registration District” on the first of the month following a mandatory web-based training course on how to issue death certificates from EDRS.

A local registrar may elect to become an “EDRS Only Local Registration District” at any time.

Transitioning to an “EDRS Only District”

Upon receipt of a completed “Request to Become an EDRS Only Local Registration District”, BHSR will perform the following tasks:

1. Provide the local registrar with complete printer specifications.
2. Provide the local registrar with new security stock after the local registrar (including deputies) has completed a mandatory web-based training course. This course is anticipated to be available in February 2021.
3. Update the local registrar listing located on the EDRS webpage at www.doh.pa.gov/edrs to indicate those registrars that are “EDRS Only Districts”.
4. Assist funeral homes to identify the closest local registrar that is providing services for paper-reported deaths.

Within one month of transitioning to an “EDRS Only District”, the local registrar must return all outstanding security stock (H105.805) and account for any reconciliation concerns.

What is EDRS?

EDRS (Electronic Death Registration System) enables death reporting stakeholders (i.e., funeral homes, coroner and medical examiner offices, and physicians) to complete a Report of Death through a secured website instead of on paper. Electronic reporting of deaths is a nation-wide initiative to improve the timeliness and quality of data surrounding deaths in our nation.

Through the efforts of those stakeholders that have already adopted, Pennsylvania now registers 99% of all deaths through EDRS. EDRS provides the Department of Health with “near time” death reporting as compared to the three-month delay associated with paper reported deaths.

This rapid reporting of death data is crucial to the Commonwealth and our nation in notification of and responding to public health issues including epidemics and natural disasters.

Contact Information:

For questions on becoming an “EDRS Only Local Registration District”, contact the Local Registrar Support Unit at RA-DHDVRLRSupport@pa.gov.

For questions on EDRS, contact the Death Registry Unit at RA-DHDeathReg@pa.gov.

Vital Events Stakeholder Hotline
Phone: 800-323-9613



Request to Become an EDRS Only Local Registration District

In accordance with State Registrar Notice 2020-01, I am requesting my intention to become an EDRS Only District. I understand that I must continue to accept paper-reported deaths until the first day of the month following my completion of mandatory training on how to issue death certificates directly in EDRS.

Local Registrar Name: _____

LR District Number: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Local Registrar's Signature: _____

Date Signed: _____

Submit this form to the following:

By email: RA-DHDVRLRSupport@pa.gov

By fax: 724-656-3272