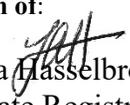


STATE REGISTRAR NOTICE

Subject: Revision to Acceptance Policy for Facility Corrections to Reports of Live Birth	Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Transitory	Number: 2023-02
Date Issued: February 13, 2023	Audience: All Birth Stakeholders	By Direction of:  Lisa Hasselbrook State Registrar

Facilities that report live births electronically to the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries (BHSR) do so through the Electronic Birth Reporting System (EBRS; currently, eVitals). These facilities include hospitals, licensed birthing facilities, and midwives. After a report of birth is registered, the facility may electronically access the case and submit corrected information for BHSR to accept as an amendment to the record.

Facilities typically collect information from parents to complete the newborn’s report of live birth through a worksheet, such as the [Birthing Parent’s Worksheet](#). This information is then transcribed by facility staff into the EBRS for registration with BHSR. Data entry errors made in this process, such as misspellings, can be corrected by the facility after registration through a “Hospital Correction” amendment. The worksheet serves as documentary evidence for the correction, demonstrating the information as it was provided by the parent to the facility.

Effective immediately, facility corrections to information that prints on the birth certificate, including the child’s and parent’s names, date of birth, and sex, will be accepted for up to six months after the registration of the birth. This replaces the previous policy which limited these corrections to within 15 days of the date of birth. Amendments to medical data will continue to be accepted at any time.

Facilities may still only make corrections to align the birth record with the information originally reported to them by the parents, as supported by documentation such as the Birthing Parent’s Worksheet. Changes to information on the birth record, such as adding parentage or changing the child’s name, must be requested by the parents through a [Request to Modify](#).

This revision should improve a facility’s ability to provide customer service to new parents as well as to streamline the fixing of data entry errors on newborn records. BHSR will be issuing courtesy notifications to parents when a correction is completed on their child’s record with guidance on how to exchange the birth certificate for a corrected copy.

Contact Information:

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