

# Stillbirth or the death of a baby

## Information for bereaved parents about registering the birth

**Stillbirth, or the death of a baby, is a difficult time for parents, family and friends.**

**The Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages Victoria understands this is a distressing time for you, and we extend our sympathy to you and your family.**

While we acknowledge the emotional hardship that you face, the birth of your child must still be registered, and we seek your assistance to do this.

There is no fee for registration.

For stillborn babies only the birth is registered. If your baby died after birth, both the birth and death of the baby will be registered.

By registering the birth, your child will be remembered in Victoria's records. It also gives you the option to buy a standard (legal) and/or commemorative birth certificate in their memory (fees apply for certificates).

If it is required, the information needed to register a death will be provided to BDM by your doctor.

### *Further information and support*

Support during these difficult times is available from Sands, a support group comprised of parents who have experienced the death of a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth, or shortly after birth.

Information about Sands is available at [www.sandsvic.org.au](http://www.sandsvic.org.au).

### *Commemorative birth certificates*

You can remember your baby with a commemorative birth certificate if you wish. You can view the designs available to purchase at [www.bdm.vic.gov.au](http://www.bdm.vic.gov.au).

### *Contact us*

If you need help call us on 1300 369 367 — we are available to assist.

If you need the Translating and Interpreting Service, call 13 14 50 and ask them to contact the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages Victoria on 1300 369 367.



**To register a birth, visit  
[www.bdm.vic.gov.au/baby](http://www.bdm.vic.gov.au/baby).**

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