



**Physician Assistants
are important to
vital records.**

**Together we inform
public health
and improve lives
one record
at a time.**

The Minnesota Department of Health, Office of Vital Records welcomes physician assistants to the vital records community. With legislation signed and effective last week, you are among the health professionals authorized to certify death records and provide information about the cause and manner of death. You already have an important role in caring for and providing services for many Minnesotans. Now you can help inform public health and serve families by providing the most current and accurate health information on death records.

About 42,000 deaths occur each year in Minnesota and each of those deaths is recorded carefully. Information about the fact of death and information about the cause of the death is collected for the record and the legal certificates that are issued. The Office of Vital Records oversees the statewide system to register, certify, and report vital events. We assure that the fact of death and the cause of death are registered electronically to create one record that contains medical information and demographic and legal information for a decedent.

As new members of the vital records community, you are important to the future of timely and accurate death registration. The Office of Vital Records welcomes you and is here to help you with your new role. We are updating our information to reflect the recent legislative changes and we will be offering training and education opportunities soon. Please sign up to for an account to use our web-based application, Minnesota Registration and Certification System (MR&C), and register deaths online in real time, For more information about death registration and vital records, see the current medical certifier information on the [MDH website](#). Contact the Office of Vital Records for more information and for access to MR&C at 651-201-5993 or health.MRCAdmin@state.mn.us. Our help desk is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.