



REGISTRY OF VITAL RECORDS AND STATISTICS

Department of Public Health

New Electronic RN, NP or PA Death Pronouncement System Frequently Asked Questions August 2023

This new functionality in the Massachusetts Vital Records Information Collaborative (MAVRIC) system will make it much easier for you to complete the pronouncement of death form in settings where the medical certifier or medical examiner is not immediately available (M.G.L., Chapter 46 §9). The new function will improve data quality and reduce paper processes and is a critical part of our modernized, user-friendly vital records and statistics system. For more on MAVRIC or the new pronouncement functionality, email us at RVRSCommunications@mass.gov.

1. **When does MAVRIC and the new electronic pronouncement process go into effect?** MAVRIC is projected to go live in January 2024 at which time RN, NP or PA pronouncers will start completing death pronouncements electronically.
2. **Is the RN, NP or PA electronic death pronouncement demonstration available to view?** Yes. Click [here](#) to access the recorded demonstration which will take you through the process.
3. **Do I need to enroll in MAVRIC to complete the death pronouncement electronically?** Yes. More information will be provided soon about the MAVRIC enrollment process. Please continue to check our website for updates at [Electronic Death Registration System Update | Mass.gov](#).
4. **Will I be able to log in from any device?** Yes. Enrollees can log into MAVRIC using any device connected to the internet, such as a laptop, tablet, or internet-accessible mobile phone.
5. **Will RN, NP and PA pronouncers' information be accessible in the system?** For any enrolled pronouncer logged into MAVRIC and starting a record, their credentials along with other identifiers such as name, title, phone number, etc., will populate in the Pronouncer information section electronically. This will save you time and eliminate the need for data entry of routine information. The system will also provide all licensed agencies, facilities, and funeral homes' information.
6. **Who can start and edit a death record?** Any enrolled RN, NP or PA pronouncers in MAVRIC can start a new record. They can also edit previously saved and signed pronouncement information. Once a physician certifies the death certificate, pronouncers can no longer make any changes.

Learn more at mass.gov/RVRS

7. **Can edits to a death record be tracked?** Any action made to an entry will be recorded and time stamped, and pronouncers can review all actions that occurred in a record.
8. **How does the electronic form differ from the paper form used now?** The electronic form is a simplified version of the paper form currently in use. The completion of the electronic pronouncement requires the same information as currently collected, including the date and time pronounced, selection of your facility, as well as the funeral home and the physician/medical certifier notified.
9. **What if the funeral home is unknown when the pronouncement is entered in MAVRIC?** The funeral home entry can be left blank; however, the record does not electronically notify a funeral home until this information is provided. MAVRIC will provide a dropdown menu of funeral homes already in the system to select from. Selection of the expected funeral home does not permanently assign that funeral home to a record until the funeral home “claims” the record.
10. **How will a funeral home director know a case has been assigned to them?** Once the funeral home is selected from the dropdown menu or added to the electronic record, the MAVRIC system will alert the funeral home electronically, by email and system notification, enabling them to locate the record and make plans to pick up the deceased.
11. **Is there a way to communicate with other offices or partners (e.g., medical examiners, medical certifiers, funeral homes, hospitals) with the MAVRIC system?** Yes. MAVRIC has internal communication functionality which allows communications among all MAVRIC users enrolled in the system.
12. **What happens if there is no access to the internet?** If a death occurred in the home and use of the electronic process is not possible, the paper form should be used to start a death record. Once a funeral home is selected, they can input the record in the system and act/present as pronouncers to start the record electronically.

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