



VILLAGE OF RIDGEWOOD
131 NORTH MAPLE AVENUE
RIDGEWOOD, NEW JERSEY 07450

Do foreign governments accept a birth or death record issued by the Office of Vital Statistics and Registry?

Yes. However, in some cases the vital record must also contain an Apostille Seal. The seal is often required on documents for international adoptions or establishing dual citizenship and if the foreign country is a member of the Hague Treaty. Contact the consulate of the country involved to determine if you need an Apostille Seal.

How do I obtain a record with an Apostille Seal?

You must make a request to The State of New Jersey, [Department of Treasury](#) . When making a request, you must submit the original or certified copy of the document bearing the original signature of the State Registrar or Assistant State Registrar along with a cover letter indicating the name of the country in which the document is to be presented and whether the transaction involves an adoption.

Remember that all vital records (birth, death and marriage) from January 1, 1901 forward must be obtained from the NJ Department of Health, [Office of Vital Statistics and Registry](#), 609.292.4087. Any vital records issued before January 1, 1901 must be obtained from the New Jersey State Archives. The Division of Revenue cannot attest to the signatures of registrars from municipal offices