



NORTH DAKOTA

Baby Safe Haven Hospital Checklist

Use the following protocol when a baby is brought to a hospital they were not born in:

- ✓ The baby must appear to be under age one-year old, or the parent/agent must state that the baby is under age one.
- ✓ The baby must appear unharmed (this is not a medical judgement).
- ✓ The baby must be left with an on-duty staff member at an approved location.

For more specific information on North Dakota Baby Safe Haven Law, please visit our resource page: <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/cfs/safe-haven>

For access to the North Dakota Baby Safe Haven Training, please visit: <https://babysafehaven.pcand.org/>

For questions or more information about the HHS Baby Safe Haven Training Program and Baby Safe Haven educational materials, contact the Family Health and Wellness Unit: injury@nd.gov



NORTH DAKOTA

Baby Safe Haven Hospital Checklist

Use the following protocol when a baby is brought to a hospital they were not born in:

✓ **Accept the abandoned baby**

✓ **Provide the baby and the parent/agent with a numbered identification bracelet to link the parent/agent to the baby (a standard hospital bracelet is sufficient).**

The bracelet creates a presumption that the individual has “standing” to participate in court hearings concerning the baby, if desired. It does not entitle the holder custody of the baby on demand; it does not indicate maternity/paternity.

✓ **Give the parent/agent the Medical History form along with an addressed and postage paid envelope.**

The parent/agent is not required to answer the questions or complete the form. The parent/agent may choose to complete any of the questions voluntarily. If/when the medical form is returned, it must be forwarded to North Dakota Health and Human Services.

- Medical Form: <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/cfs/safe-haven>

✓ **Ask the parent/agent:**

The address, city, state, time and place of the baby’s birth.

Does either parent have an Indian tribal affiliation? If so, what tribe? (If the baby’s tribal affiliation is known, the Indian Child Welfare Act will apply and the tribe will be contacted about possible tribal membership).

Whether the birth certificate was issued and the first name on the birth certificate.

✓ **Provide medical and legal information to the birth parent or their agent.**

The Baby Safe Haven Pamphlet can be found on: <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/cfs/safe-haven>

✓ **Once the parent/agent leaves the location, call the Human Service Zone to care for the baby.**

Human Service Zone locations: <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/service-locations>

✓ **Conduct or arrange for an examination of the baby with the nearest Medicaid provider.**

This ensures the baby is unharmed and healthy.

✓ **Provide the Human Service Zone with the infant’s birth and medical record (if available).**

Do this to establish evidence that the baby is in unharmed condition.



NORTH DAKOTA

Baby Safe Haven Hospital Checklist

Use the following protocol when an infant is born in a hospital and is abandoned without leaving the hospital:

- ✓ **Provide the baby and the parent/agent with a numbered identification bracelet to link the parent/agent to the baby (a standard hospital bracelet is sufficient).**

The bracelet creates a presumption that the individual has “standing” to participate in court hearings concerning the baby, if desired. It does not entitle the holder custody of the baby on demand; it does not indicate maternity/paternity.

- ✓ **Give the parent/agent the Medical History form along with an addressed and postage paid envelope.**

The parent/agent is not required to answer the questions or complete the form. The parent/agent may choose to complete any of the questions voluntarily. If/when the medical form is returned, it must be forwarded to North Dakota Health and Human Services.

- Medical form: <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/cfs/safe-haven>

- ✓ **Ask the parent/agent:**

The address, city, state, time and place of the baby’s birth.

Does either parent have an Indian tribal affiliation? If so, what tribe? (If the baby’s tribal affiliation is known, the Indian Child Welfare Act will apply and the tribe will be contacted about possible tribal membership).

Whether the birth certificate was issued and the first name on the birth certificate.

- ✓ **Provide medical and legal information to the birth parent or their agent.**

The Baby Safe Haven Pamphlet can be found on: <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/cfs/safe-haven>

- ✓ **Once the parent/agent has left the location, call the Human Service Zone and notify them that a baby has been abandoned at the location.**

Human Service Zone locations: <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/service-locations>

- ✓ **Provide the Human Service Zone with the infant’s birth and medical record (if available).**

Do this to establish evidence that the baby is in unharmed condition.

- The information is also used to obtain a birth certificate for the baby, which is necessary for enrollment in Medicaid and foster care programs.
- If the hospital has already registered the birth with Vital Records, this also prevents dual birth registrations.
- When a birth registration has already taken place, a court order is obtained by CPS for a new birth certificate to be issued without the parent’s name.