

# How old can my Texas recordable document be to get it apostilled?

○ **Recordable** documents are issued by a Texas statewide officer.

**Recordable documents may not be certified by a notary public.**

This includes certified copies of birth/death certificates, vehicle title histories, etc.; documents issued by a county official including certified copies of marriage licenses, divorce decrees, probated wills, judgments, birth/death certificates, etc.; documents issued by a city or local registrar including certified copies of birth/death certificates. **You must submit the complete document for authentication. Originals and/or certified copies submitted for authentication must have been issued within the past five years.** Request for Official Certificate or Apostille - NOT for use in proceedings relating to the adoption of one or more children - Form 2102.

The screenshot above is from the Texas Secretary of State website where it states your recordable document must be issued within the past five years but you can completely ignore this statement.

They say this generic statement because a few government entities in a couple of different foreign countries want all recordable documents submitted to them issued within the last five years.

As long as the State of Texas can find your recordable document records in their database they will issue a Texas apostille certificate on the document. We have successfully apostilled and authenticated Texas recordable documents that were issued as far back as the 1960s.

Texas recordable documents are classified as Texas birth certificates, Texas death certificates, Texas marriage

licenses or Texas marriage certificates, Texas divorce decrees, Texas divorce certificates, Texas DPS-issued criminal background checks, and Texas DPS vehicle driving records and they **must be issued after 1980**.

If not, you will need to order a new certified copy of the recordable document from Texas Vital Records or from the Texas county where the event (birth, death, divorce, marriage, etc.) happened because the Texas Secretary of State won't be able to find that old of a Texas recordable document in their database.

If your state-certified copy or original Texas recordable document was **issued between 1980-1999** you will have roughly a 50% chance that it will be rejected by the Texas Secretary of State because they won't be able to find that old of a Texas recordable document in the database.

With that said we've successfully apostilled many Texas recordable documents issued from the 1980s and 1990s that the Texas Secretary of State found so we'll happily attempt to file your Texas recordable document that was issued during those years.

But please be aware if the Texas Secretary of State does reject the recordable document that we present to them on your behalf (we will mail you the original rejection letter that the Texas Secretary of State issues on all rejected documents) you will have to order a new certified recordable document copy and then pay us our full Texas apostille services fee a second time to reattempt to apostille your recordable document for a second time.