

Process for Getting Birth Certificate for Child Born Abroad

For a child was born abroad, they will need a Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA), which serves as official proof of U.S. citizenship.

Madigan Army Medical Center cannot issue this document, as it is a State Department process. However, several resources at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) can assist the family with the application.

Here's a breakdown of the process and who can help:

1. The Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA)

This is the most critical document. It is the equivalent of a U.S. birth certificate for a child born overseas.

- Application Form: The family will need to complete the DS-2029, Application for Consular Report of Birth Abroad.
- Required Evidence: They will need to provide supporting documents, including:
 - The child's foreign birth certificate from Bahrain.
 - Proof of the parents' U.S. citizenship (passports, birth certificates).
 - The parents' marriage certificate.
 - Evidence of the U.S. citizen parent's physical presence in the United States prior to the child's birth.

2. Assistance at JBLM

While Madigan itself cannot issue the CRBA, there are several offices at JBLM that can guide the family through the process:

Office	Contact Information	How They Can Help
JBLM Passport Office	Phone: 253-967-2269 Email: usarmy.jblm.imcom.list.dhr-mpd-passports@army.mil Location: Waller Hall, 2140 Liggett Ave.	This office is the primary resource on base for passport and citizenship documentation. They can guide the family through the DS-2029 application and help them gather the necessary supporting evidence. They handle Special Issuance Passports and are familiar

JBLM Legal
Assistance
Office

Website: [JAGCNET Army Legal Assistance](#)

with the requirements for dependents.

The legal assistance office can provide advice on the legal requirements for establishing citizenship and can help review the necessary forms and documentation. They also offer assistance with family law matters.

Madigan
Patient
Advocate

Phone: (253) 968-1145

While they don't handle the legal paperwork, the Patient Advocate can be a crucial resource for navigating the hospital system, coordinating with other support services, and ensuring the family's needs are met during this stressful time.

Armed Forces
Community
Service
(AFCS) -
Relocation
Readiness

Phone: (253) 967-3635 (Waller Hall)
or (253) 982-2695 (McChord Field)

The relocation team can connect the family with a wide range of support services, including financial assistance, the Lending Closet for household goods, and spouse support programs.

3. U.S. Passport

Once the CRBA is issued, the infant will also need a U.S. passport for any future international travel. The JBLM Passport Office can also assist with the passport application (Form DS-11).

Important Considerations

- **Urgency:** Given the evacuation and lack of documentation, it's important to stress the urgency of the situation to every office contacted.
- **Original Documents:** The process will require original documents (or certified copies), not photocopies.

- Both Parents: For minors under 16, both parents generally need to be present to sign the passport application, or the absent parent must provide a notarized consent form (DS-3053).

I strongly recommend the family start by contacting the JBLM Passport Office as their first step. They are best equipped to handle the specific forms and processes for obtaining the CRBA and passport.