

## Important!

- All refugee claimants are entitled to health coverage through the Interim Federal Health Program (IFHP) (brown paper).
- It may take several months after the birth of your child to receive their RAMQ card.
- During that time, if your child needs health services, you may be asked to pay the corresponding bills. You may have to pay for services in advance and then request reimbursement from the RAMQ after receiving your child's card.
- In general, hospitals should not charge you any fees, but if they do, you can sign a payment agreement. Under this agreement, you must present the RAMQ card to the hospital once you receive it, and the hospital will then be reimbursed directly by the RAMQ.



This guide was developed in collaboration with:



## Are you a refugee claimant who has just given birth in Quebec?

Your newborn child is entitled to RAMQ coverage from birth!



- Anyone born in Quebec is automatically a Canadian citizen.
- Canadian citizens who reside in Quebec are entitled to the province's health coverage, regardless of the immigration status of their parents.
- Quebec's medical insurance provider is called the Régie de l'assurance maladie (RAMQ).
- You must register your newborn with the RAMQ in order for them to be covered.
- The registration process can take time, but your newborn is covered from birth.
- 

Here are the steps to follow

## TO KNOW

## TO DO

### STEP 1 – Register your child with the Directeur de l'état civil (DEC) within 30 days of their birth.

When a child is born, the hospital sends an attestation of birth to the DEC and provides a copy to the parents.

**Timeline:** You have 30 days following the birth of your child to send the Declaration of Birth form to the DEC. After that period, you will have to pay a late fee.

- Complete the paper copy of the Declaration of Birth form that the hospital provides you.
- Give the completed form to hospital staff or mail it to the following address:  
**Directeur de l'état civil**  
2535, boulevard Laurier  
Québec (Québec) G1V 5C6

**Note:** The online form is available only for refugee claimants who have a Social Insurance Number (SIN) and a ClicSÉCUR account:

[https://www.etatcivil.gouv.qc.ca/en/birth/declaration\\_birth.html](https://www.etatcivil.gouv.qc.ca/en/birth/declaration_birth.html)

### STEP 2 – Once your documents have been received, the DEC will issue a birth certificate.

The DEC will mail you a letter to confirm that your child is registered in the register of civil status and will also forward the information directly to the RAMQ.

**Timeline:** It may take 30 to 45 days to receive a letter from the DEC.

- When you receive the letter from the DEC, make sure all the information shown is accurate.
- If you move, call the DEC at **1-877-644-4545** to give them your new address.

### STEP 3 – The RAMQ will send you proof of registration and a list of documents that you need to provide.

While you wait for your child's application to be processed, the RAMQ will provide you temporary proof of registration, which will allow your child to access health services for free.

**Timeline:** It may take 4 to 6 weeks to hear from the RAMQ. The temporary proof of registration from the RAMQ is valid for 45 days as of the date it is issued.

**Note:** For your child to be covered by the RAMQ, you must provide proof that you plan to stay in Quebec for more than 6 months. Your Refugee Protection Claimant Document is valid proof.

- Send a copy of your Refugee Protection Claimant Document (brown paper) to the RAMQ at the address indicated in the letter from the RAMQ.
- If you move, update your address using the provincial address change service <https://www.adresse.gouv.qc.ca/incrire/FormulaireChangementAdresse.aspx?Etappe=0&Lng=en>

### STEP 4 – The RAMQ will review your child's application and determine whether they are eligible.

If your child is eligible, the RAMQ will mail you their health insurance card, which you can then present to access health services for free.

**Note:** You do not need to take a photo of your child for the RAMQ card until they turn 14.

- Make sure that your address is up to date in order to receive your child's RAMQ card in the mail.