



IF DEATH WAS DUE TO INFECTION WITH THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS-19, THE WORDS “COVID-19”, “NOVEL CORONAVIRUS 19”, OR “SARS-CoV2” MUST BE INCLUDED IN PART I OF THE DEATH CERTIFICATE

FAMILIES WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL BURIAL BENEFITS IF THIS INFORMATION IS OMITTED AND THE DEATH WILL NOT BE REGISTERED AS BEING RELATED TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

For technical assistance with the electronic death registration system, contact the VRISM Help Desk at health.vrism@tn.gov or at (855) 874-7686 Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm. [Here](#) is a link to the login page.

When crafting the cause of death statement, please bear in mind:

- “COVID-19”, “novel coronavirus 19”, or “SARS-CoV-2” should be included in Part I of the death certificate if death was felt to be due to novel coronavirus infection.
- If a person with chronic severe medical conditions dies with novel coronavirus-19 infection and it is felt that the infection hastened their demise, the death should be attributed to COVID-19.
- The cause of death statement is read from the top to the bottom, with the underlying cause of death listed last.
- “Presumed”, “likely”, “probable”, or “suspected” may be used in cases in which testing was not performed, but there is a strong clinical suspicion that death was due to novel coronavirus infection.
- If test results are pending at the time of death certification, indicate so in the cause of death statement.
- Any pre-existing conditions which may have made the decedent more susceptible to death due to novel coronavirus-19 infection should be listed in Part II.
- More details on certification of COVID-19 deaths from the CDC can be found [here](#).