

# Electronic Journal (e-Journal) for District of Columbia notaries

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## Can an e-journal be used as the sole journal for in-person notarizations in District of Columbia?

✔ An electronic journal may be used exclusively.

*Source: A notary public shall maintain a journal in which the notary public records all notarial acts that the notary public or electronic notary performs*

Looking for info on a different state/province?

Country

United States



State/Region

District of Columbia



Introduction to the NotaryCentral Electronic Journal



## Where can I get an e-Journal?

You can get an e-Journal right here on NotaryCentral! Our e-Journal provides a secure, guided, and affordable solution. [See pricing.](#)

## How does Notary Central's e-Journal compare to other options?

| Feature                                  | NotaryCentral   | Other e-Journals  | Hard cover bound book  |
|--|---|---|------------------------|
| Extensive safeguards to prevent mistakes | ✅ The app is meticulously configured to have state-specific validations and features in place | ❌ Minimal amount of guardrails  | ❌ No guardrails        |
| Non-messy thumbprint capture             | ✅ It's digital  | ✅ It's digital  | ❌ Stains happen        |
| Affordable price                         | ✅ \$20 / year, unlimited entries  | ❌ \$168 / year, unlimited entries   | ✅ \$30 per 300 entries |
| Works without an internet connection     | ✅ Works even if you're signed out of the app  | 🟡 You need to be signed in to the app and the app consistently logs you out | ✅                      |

| Feature   | NotaryCentral  | Other e-Journals   | Hard cover bound book                              |
|---|--|--|--|
| Enables hiding sensitive info   | ✓  | ✓  | ✗ How you protect sensitive info is up to you      |
| Lets you register interpreters  | ✓  | ✗ You can workaround by adding them under "Additional notes" but it looks messy and is editable after finalizing | ✓  |
| Lets you register witnesses   | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Lets you create daily backups that get stored directly on your device | ✓  | ✗ Not applicable   |  |
| Lets you extract ID info with a picture                               | ✓  | ✓  | ✗  |
| Lets you set an "on decease" note                                     | ✓  | ✗  | ✓  |
| Creates receipts  | ✓  | ✓  | 🟡 Some do  |
| Easy to prove authenticity of journal entry                           | ✓ Tamper-evident hash strategy plus automatic timestamps enables high confidence | 🟡 Depends on the tool  | ✗ Entries can be quietly erased, raising suspicion |

<!--WORKS\_ON\_DEVICES-->

## Can I capture thumbprints?


✓ Yes. [Learn more.](#)

# Is there training material to get started?

 Yes. [Find it here.](#)

## FAQ

- **Can I use this e-Journal for my Remote Online Notarization appointments?**

 Yes. The app lets you indicate the platform used and a unique identifier to the signing session.

- **Are e-Journal entries tamper-evident?**

Yes, entries in NotaryCentral's e-Journal are tamper-evident. Once an entry is saved, a secure tamper-evident hash is created, locking the record. If any part of the entry is altered later, the hash will no longer match, clearly indicating tampering.

- **How does NotaryCentral make sure my journal data doesn't get lost?**

NotaryCentral offers several lines of defense. First, all data is automatically backed up in a second cloud provider in case an (unlikely) disaster happens to the first one. Second, we offer a "Backup" button that exports all the journal data in its original form to your device. We highly encourage you to use it for added protection.

- **How long does NotaryCentral host my journal?**

Indefinitely. We will only remove journals upon written request.

- **What happens if I don't have internet connection?**

You can create journal entries without an internet connection and even when you are signed out. Once you regain access to the internet you can sync your entries.

## Disclaimer

Always consult your state's guidelines before proceeding as rules and regulations may change at any time.

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**NotaryCentral helps you stay compliant. Learn more.**