

NON-IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ABOUT ADOPTIONS FINALIZED IN VERMONT

A summary of information of the adoption record — about the adoption; the adoptive parents, biological/former parents, and birth siblings; and the adopted person's health, genetic and social background. Private agencies may charge a fee for the service of compiling this information.

Who can request it:

- Adult or emancipated adopted people and their direct descendants
- Parents by adoption, direct descendants of deceased adopted people, and custodians/guardians of minors
- Biological/former parents, grandparents, and siblings

Where to get it:

The agency that handled the adoption will provide this information. If you don't know the name of the agency, the registry can refer you to the appropriate one. The registry can provide the non-identifying information if there was no agency involved, the agency is no longer active, or it was a state adoption.

ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATE FOR ALL ADOPTED PERSONS BORN IN VERMONT

Adult/Emancipated Adopted people and their descendants will receive a certified copy and biological/former parents will receive an informational copy of the adopted person's original (pre-adoption) birth certificate.

Who can request it:

- Adult or emancipated adopted persons and their direct descendants
- Biological/former parents

Where to get it:

Adopted persons: Please visit the Vermont Department of Health website for the application:

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/PreAdoptionBirthCertificate>

Biological/former parents: Send a copy of identification such as a driver's license, along with your request to:

Vermont Vital Records

PO Box 70

Burlington, VT 05402-0070

Vermont's Adoption Law

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/title/15A>

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ABOUT ADOPTIONS FINALIZED IN VERMONT

Facts that will help establish the identity and whereabouts of the adopted person, biological/former parents, or a birth sibling (e.g., a full name, date of birth, and last known address).

Who can request it:

- Adult or emancipated adopted persons and their direct descendants
- Biological/former parents and siblings (18+)

What is required:

Unless a biological/former parent has filed a Request for Non-Disclosure, identifying information about that biological/former parent shall be disclosed to adult/emancipated persons and descendants upon request.

Identifying information about the adopted person shall be disclosed to biological/former parents/siblings only if there is consent to the disclosure.

Where to get it:

The Vermont Adoption Registry.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR ADOPTED PERSONS:

What if I'm denied information?

You may petition the probate court if you are denied "non-identifying" information you're entitled to by law.

Call the Registry at (802) 241-0906.

We can refer you to the appropriate court and answer any questions you have about the process.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR BIOLOGICAL/FORMER PARENTS:

What if I want to be contacted?

File a Contact Preference Form indicating your preference for contact with the adopted person.

What if I don't want my identity disclosed?

After July 1, 2023, you can no longer file a form stating you do not consent to the release of identifying information about you. However, you may file a contact preference form.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR ADOPTION CONSTELLATION MEMBERS:

What if there is newly available health information?

Adoptive parents, adopted persons, or biological/former family members who become aware of health information that could seriously affect the health or reproductive decisions of another party should contact the Registry. We will attempt to notify the affected party as long as you have a certified statement from a physician confirming the information.

OTHER SERVICES OF THE REGISTRY:

- ▶ Post Adoption Contact support
- ▶ Intermediary service for correspondence
- ▶ Consultation and Referral

Vermont Adoption Registry
280 State Drive, HC 1 North
Waterbury, VT 05671-1030
(802) 241-0906



The Vermont Adoption Registry Finding Your Roots

DCF.Vermont.gov/Registry/Adoption