Request for Pre-Adoptive New Zealand Birth Certificate

Tono Tiwhikete Whānau o Aotearoa i Mua i te Whāngaitanga

Internal Affairs
Te Tari Taiwhenua

BDM451

You can apply for a pre-adoptive birth certificate if you:

- are aged 20 or older, and
- were born and adopted in New Zealand.

Before you apply

If you were born overseas

Do not complete this form.

Births, Deaths and Marriages (BDM) can only issue pre-adoptive birth certificates for people born in New Zealand. If you were born overseas, contact the authority in your country of birth.

What is a pre-adoptive birth certificate?

A pre-adoptive birth certificate shows details about your birth parents. Under the Adult Adoption Information Act 1985, people aged 20 and over, who were born and adopted in New Zealand, have a right to apply for their pre-adoptive birth certificate.

A pre-adoptive birth certificate will usually contain the following information:

- your birth name
- the name, age and birthplace of your birth mother and birth father (if known)
- your adoptive name
- the names of your adoptive parents, and
- the date of your final Adoption Order and the court or magistrate who made this order.

Your pre-adoptive birth certificate will be stamped with 'Issued for the Purposes of the Adult Adoption Information Act 1985'. This is to differentiate this from your post-adoptive birth certificate, which has your adoptive name and the names of your adoptive parents.

If your parent has placed a veto

Your birth parent can place a veto if you were adopted before 1 March 1986. You will still receive your pre-adoptive birth certificate, but it will not include your birth parent's name, age or birthplace. In this situation, your certificate will be sent directly to you.

A veto lasts for a 10 year period unless it is removed or renewed for a further 10 years by your birth parent.

Services a counsellor or social worker can offer

A counsellor or social worker can give you advice and support about tracing and contacting your birth parent(s).

An Oranga Tamariki Adoption Service social worker can:

- tell you how to access information that may be on your adoption file, and
- help you trace and contact a living birth parent, and find out if a birth parent has died.

For more information, go to:
orangatamariki.govt.nz/adoption

How to order your pre-adoptive birth certificate

You must complete two forms:

- BDM451 Request for Pre-adoptive New Zealand Birth Certificate (pages 7–8 of this application), and
- BDM130 General Identity Declaration (pages 9–10 of this application).

If you were adopted before 1 March 1986 and live in New Zealand

Under the Adult Adoption Information Act 1985, your pre-adoptive certificate will be sent to your nominated counsellor if:

- you live in New Zealand, and
- there is no veto in place.

For more information on this Act, go to:
legislation.govt.nz.

You can nominate either:

- an Oranga Tamariki Adoption Service social worker, or
- a community based independant counsellor who has been approved by Oranga Tamariki Adoption Service under the Adult Adoption Information Act 1985.

A list of approved counsellors is included on pages 3–5 of this form.

If you nominate an independant counsellor, contact them before completing your application form to confirm they are available.

If you nominate an Adoption Service social worker, you do not need to contact them in advance. They will contact you once you have received your certificate.

You can meet your nominated counsellor or social worker in person or by telephone.

If you were adopted before 1 March 1986 and live overseas

You pre-adoptive certificate will be sent directly to you.

Oranga Tamariki Adoption Service offer advice and support for people who were adopted in New Zealand and live overseas.

If you were adopted on or after 1 March 1986

An Oranga Tamariki Adoption Service social worker will offer you counselling and support. However, your pre-adoptive certificate can be sent directly to you if you do not want counselling.

To request for your certificate to be sent directly to you:

- in section 4 of this form (BMD451) tick the box to indicate you want your certificate sent directly to you, and
- respond to the letter Birth Deaths and Marriages (BDM) sends you after we receive your application to confirm you do not want counselling.

BDM contact details

Website: govt.nz/bdm/contactus

Email: bdm.nz@dia.govt.nz

Do not email the completed form to us. Only use email for queries about the form. To return the form, follow the postage instructions on page 11.

Counsellors appointed under the Adult Adoption Information Act 1985

Under the Adult Adoption Information Act 1985, counselling is usually required before the release of a pre-adoptive birth certificate.

Following is a list of people who are appointed to provide counselling. Counselling can be face to face or by telephone.

Independent counsellors are people in the community appointed by Oranga Tamariki.

Oranga Tamariki have a specialised Adoption Service that can also assist with the release of a pre-adoptive birth certificate

District	Oranga Tamariki	Independent counsellors
Auckland Tāmaki-makau-rau	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) Ask to speak to the adoption social worker in Auckland	Alison Cleland (Birkenhead) 0274 399 789 alison.c.cleland@gmail.com Lesley Read (Onehunga) (09) 624 4084 022 156 3959 lesley@read.org.nz
Bay of Plenty Te Moana-a-Toi	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) Ask to speak to the adoption social worker in Rotorua or Tauranga	Irene Maxwell (07) 549 3002 027 437 1404 Suzanne Harrison 07 886 4786 027 448 2734 suzanneharrison1960@gmail.com
Canterbury Waitaha	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) Ask to speak to the adoption social worker in Christchurch	Murray Roberts 021 244 3224 Christchurch
Central Otago/ Otago Ōtākou	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) Ask to speak to the adoption social worker in Dunedin	Catholic Social Services (03) 448 5385 Central Otago Catholic Social Services (03) 455 3838 Dunedin

District	Oranga Tamariki	Independent counsellors
East Cape Te Tai Rāwhiti	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) Ask to speak to the adoption social worker in Napier	
Hawke's Bay Te Matau-a-Māui	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) Ask to speak to the adoption social worker in Napier	
Manawatū and Horowhenua	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) Ask to speak to the adoption social worker who covers Palmerston North	Chris Thomas 027 280 7325 projectteamltd@gmail.com
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) Ask to speak to the adoption social worker in Auckland	Colin Edwards (09) 436 3561 021 436 356 c.medwards@actrix.co.nz
Southland Murihiku	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) Ask to speak to the adoption social worker in Invercargill	
Tasman Te Tai-o-Aorere Nelson Whakatū Marlborough Te Tauihu-o-te-waka	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) Ask to speak to the adoption social worker in Nelson	
Taranaki and Whanganui	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) Ask to speak to the adoption social worker in Whanganui	

District	Oranga Tamariki	Independent counsellors
Tūrangi and Taupō	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) Ask to speak to the adoption social worker in Rotorua	
Waikato	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) 027 328 1300 Ask to speak to the adoption social worker in Hamilton	Corinne Young (07) 856 9517 021 905 659 corinne@wanion.net Karen Sloane (Thames) 022 0929653 minniewku1944@gmail.com
Wellington and Wairarapa Te Whanga-nui-a-Tara	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) 04 917 1155 027 200 1586 Ask to speak to the adoption social worker in Wellington	Robyn Henley (04) 938 7255 027 231 6196 robynhenley61@gmail.com
West Coast Te Tai Poutini	Adoption Service 0508 326 459 (0508 FAMILY) Ask to speak to the adoption social worker in Christchurch	

Privacy statement

The information on this form is collected under the Adult Information Act 1985. As part of processing your request, your identification details may be checked against other records held by Department of Internal Affairs or other government agencies, as authorised by law.

The information collected in your application may be used in statistical analysis and reporting for service improvement and business management purposes. Personal information will only be used where necessary for those purposes.

Data is stored, accessed and retained in accordance with our Privacy Policy, Information Management Policy, and the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) Code of Conduct which incorporates our ICT and security policies, and in compliance with the Privacy Act 2020 and the Public Records Act 2005.

Fees statement

All fees are in New Zealand dollars. All fees are subject to change. They are current at the date of publishing this form.

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Request for pre-adoptive New Zealand birth certificate

Tono tiwhikete whānau o Aotearoa i mua i te whāngaitanga

Internal Affairs
Te Tari Taiwhenua

BDM451

How to answer:

- You can complete this form by hand or on-screen using Adobe Reader.
- You can use the Tab key to move to the next fillable form field in Adobe Reader.
- You must still print off the application and sign where applicable by hand.

Please read the 'Before you apply' section (pages 1–5) of this application form carefully before you start. If your application is not correct and complete, your application may be delayed or unsuccessful.

1. My address

Full name (if different from post-adoptive name)

Street number and name

Suburb

Town or city

Country (if not New Zealand)

Postcode

2. My details

2a. My post-adoptive (current) names

Post-adoptive first names

Post-adoptive surname

Place of birth (town or city)

Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)

2b. Post-adoptive parents' details at the time of the adoption

Parent 1's first names

Parent 1's surname

Parent 2's first names

Parent 2's surname

3. My contact details

These are your contact details 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday (New Zealand Standard Time).

Phone number

Alternative phone number

Email address

4. Nominated counsellor

Your pre-adoptive birth certificate will be sent to your nominated counsellor.

If you have chosen an independent counsellor, contact them to check their availability before submitting your application.

Name of nominated counsellor

Location of counsellor (town or city)

☐ Tick this box if you want your certificate sent directly to you. You must live overseas or have been adopted on or after 1 March 1986 to have your certificate sent directly to you.

5. Fees

☐ Enter certificate quantity



$15.30

Select a delivery method:

☐ I want the certificate(s) sent by standard post	$0.00
☐ I want the certificate(s) couriered	$7.00
☐ I want the certificate(s) couriered to my overseas address	$26.00 - $68.00

Australia:	$26.00	Bulgaria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cyprus,	
Asia, Pacific:	$36.00	Croatia, Greece, Libya, Macedonia, Malta,	
United Kingdom:	$53.00	Pakistan, Switzerland, Serbia, Ukraine	$68.00
USA:	$50.00	Russia, Iran, Belarus, (delivery via	
Europe		MFAT post):	$64.00
(excluding countries listed):	$54.00	Rest of world:	$62.00

Courier costs are subject to change due to inflationary and industry cost pressures. These costs also include a low-value goods levy (where applicable).

Contact us if you are unsure whether we can deliver to your country. Contact information is on page 2.

General Identity Declaration

Internal Affairs
Te Tari Taiwhenua

BDM130

You (the applicant) must fully complete sections 1 and 2.
Your referee must complete section 3.

Warning

It is an offence, punishable by imprisonment and/or a fine of up to $10,000, to make a false statement to obtain a certificate, printout or a source document, or to provide any means of identification knowing that it is false or is suspected to be forged or falsified.

1. My details (as the applicant)

1a. My current name

First names	Surname

1b. My name at birth (if different from above)

This is not your name before your were adopted. It is the name on your post-adoptive birth certificate.

First names at birth (if different from above)	Surname at birth (if different from above)

1c. My date and place at birth

Place of birth (town or city)	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)

2. My declaration (applicant must complete)

I declare that the information about me that is entered on this form is true and correct.

Signature	Date signed (dd/mm/yyyy)

If applying on behalf of a company, state their name below and include an original signed request on letterhead. Your details or the company name may be entered in the Access Register. For information about the Access Register visit govt.nz/bdm.

Company name (if applying on behalf of a company)

3. Referee's declaration (another person 16 years of age or older must complete)

I am 16 years of age or older and have known the applicant for at least 6 months or have seen a government issued photo identification of the applicant and I am satisfied the information about the applicant's identity stated in this form is true and correct.

Referee's signature	**Date signed** (dd/mm/yyyy)
Referee's full name	
Referee's phone number	
Referee's contact address	

Complete the payment section on the last page of the form.

Privacy statement

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Payment

Do not post cash or card. Do not email credit card details.

Charge my credit or debit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Prezzy Card):

Card number

Card expiry date /

Name on card

Cardholder signature

Next Steps

You must complete both forms:

- BDM451 Request for Pre-adoptive New Zealand Birth Certificate, and
- BDM130 General Identity Declaration.

Post both forms to us.

Postal address

Adult Adoption Information Officer
Births, Deaths and Marriages
PO Box 10526
Wellington 6140
New Zealand