



Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Procedures to Implement Colorado Revised Statutes § 19-5-305

CRS§ 19-5-305 Adoptions finalized prior to 9-1-99

1. Upon presentation of a certified order and proper identification that shows the Confidential Intermediary assigned to a particular case, Colorado Health Statistics and Vital Records staff will search for Colorado Voluntary Adoption Registry consent form and original and/or amended birth certificates. Usual and customary fees will apply.
2. Court order should specify whether a certified copy can be issued to the Confidential Intermediary or whether the Confidential Intermediary may only review the documents. Usual and customary fees will apply.
3. Persons who have been previously matched in the Colorado Voluntary Adoption Registry since 1983 will be issued their original birth certificates by mutual consent of the parties upon proof of identification. Usual and customary fees will apply. The Consent to Release an Original Birth Certificate form must be completed.
4. Persons who have been previously matched by Confidential Intermediary Service since 1989 and in cases where Colorado Health Statistics and Vital Records holds the order of appointment of the Confidential Intermediary, original birth certificates will be issued to the adult adoptee by mutual consent of the parties upon proof of identification. Usual and customary fees will apply.
5. Original birth certificates will be released to persons who complete the Consent to Release an Original Birth Certificate form and Affidavit of Relationship if required. See consent form for all eligible parties.
6. Sealed files will also be opened and original certificates supplied in the following circumstances.
 - Upon presentation to Colorado Health Statistics and Vital Records of a certified court order to open a sealed file and issue the original birth certificate
 - Upon matching all parties in Colorado Voluntary Adoption Registry
 - Upon presentation by an adult adoptee of a certified copy of death certificate of the deceased birth mother and no father is listed on original birth certificate

Usual and customary fees will apply.

*Confidential Intermediary is a person 21 years of age or older who has completed training that meets the standards set forth by the commission pursuant to section 19-5-303 and who is authorized to inspect confidential relinquishment and adoption records at the request of an adult adoptee, adoptive parent, biological parent, or biological sibling.

7. Birth mothers who used assumed or fictitious names may be referred to the Confidential Intermediary program or a court of competent jurisdiction.
8. Persons who present a consent form to Vital Records but are not related to each other as established through a search of adoption files, will be referred to the Confidential Intermediary program. Usual and customary fees will apply.

CRS§ 19-5-305 Adoptions finalized on or after September 1, 1999

1. Original birth certificates will be available to adult adoptees unless confidentiality has been requested by birth parent or a sibling in the same adoptive family is less than eighteen. The adult adoptee will need to provide a certified court order to Colorado Health Statistics and Vital Records indicating that no restrictions apply to the release of the original birth certificate, report and/or decree of adoption, and other correspondence in sealed file.
2. Birth parents are not entitled to an adult adoptee's new amended birth certificate. Birth parents can use the Colorado Voluntary Adoption Registry, a Confidential Intermediary, or request a certified court order to open a sealed adoption file.