

Voluntary Acknowledgment of Parentage Affidavit

This Form Requires A Notary to Witness Both Parents' Signatures

Oregon law permits the establishment of parentage by Voluntary Acknowledgment of Parentage (Acknowledgment) if there is no second parent listed on an existing Oregon birth record and the Acknowledgment satisfies all conditions required to be valid under the law. The Acknowledgment can also be used to change the last name of the child. The final page of the form provides the rights and responsibilities of the parents, alternatives to signing this Acknowledgment, consequences of signing this Acknowledgment, rights of a minor parent, and additional information.

Instructions

Important: Read and understand all the information below and on the final page of this Acknowledgment **before** you sign.

Section 1: Complete this section with the information as shown on the child's original birth certificate. Include child's new last name if you would like to change their last name.

Section 2: Complete with information regarding the parent who gave birth to the child.

Section 3: Complete with information regarding the alleged genetic parent.

Section 4: This section is optional. You may complete it if the parents were not married when the child was born but are now married. This allows the parent who gave birth to the child to update their name on the birth record to their married name. If you complete it, you must provide a **certified** marriage record or identify the Oregon county where you were married or it will result in delays.

Section 5: Each parent must sign before a notary. If notary is using a raised seal, they must indicate in which state they are registered and the date their commission expires. **Notary signature and seal must appear on this form.** Do not attach a separate notary statement.

This Acknowledgment may be filed at any time after the birth of your child. If this Acknowledgment is postmarked within **14 days** from the child's date of birth, no fee is required. The \$35 fee is required otherwise. Each parent should make a copy for their files.

Mail original to: Center for Health Statistics, PO Box 14050, Portland, OR 97293-0050.

Definitions

Acknowledged parent: A person who has been added to a birth record as a parent by signing an effective Acknowledgment of Parentage.

Adjudicated parent: A person who has been found to be a parent of a child by a court with jurisdiction.

Alleged genetic parent: A person who claims or is alleged to be a genetic or possible genetic parent of a child whose parentage has not been established by a court (adjudicated). An alleged genetic parent does not include a presumed parent, someone whose parental rights have been terminated or declared not to exist, or a donor. May also be referred to as biological father or father.

Intended parent: A person who intends to be a legal parent of a child conceived by assisted reproduction, including under a gestational surrogacy agreement, but does not include the parent who gives birth to the child.

Parentage: The parent-child relationship, with associated rights and responsibilities.

Parent who gave birth to the child: Commonly referred to as biological mother or mother.

Presumed parent: A person who is married to the parent who gave birth to the child at the time of the child's birth without a judgment of separation, or a person who was married to the parent who gave birth and the child was born within 300 days after the marriage was terminated by death, annulment or dissolution or after entry of judgment of separation. Presumed parents do not include where a child was conceived by assisted reproduction under a gestational surrogacy agreement.

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer free of charge. Contact the Center for Health Statistics at CHS.PartnerServices@oha.oregon.gov or 971-673-1190 (voice), or 711 (TTY). We accept all relay calls.

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This document establishes parentage under ORS 432.098. Do not sign until you understand your legal rights and responsibilities as stated on the last page of this form. **Complete in ink and do not alter/cross out information.**

Section 1 — Child (as named on birth certificate)				CSP Use Only
Child's name: First Middle Last Suffix (Example: Jr. or Sr.)				
Date of birth: (mm/dd/yyyy)	Birthplace: City County		Child's new last name as it should appear on birth certificate: ("N/A" if not changing)	
Section 2 — Parent who gave birth to the child				
Name: First Middle Last Suffix (Example: Jr. or Sr.)				
Present address: No. and street City State Zip				Social Security number:
Date of birth: (mm/dd/yyyy)	Birthplace State: (If not United States, name country)		Last name before any marriages: (Maiden name)	
			Daytime phone number:	
Section 3 — Alleged genetic parent				
Name: First Middle Last Suffix (Example: Jr. or Sr.)				
Present address: No. and street City State Zip				Social Security number:
Date of birth: (mm/dd/yyyy)	Birthplace State: (If not United States, name country)		Daytime phone number:	
Section 4 — (This section is optional) Marriage after child's birth				
Date of marriage: (mm/dd/yyyy)		If married in Oregon, enter the county of marriage:		
If applicable, new name of parent who gave birth to the child as it should appear on the child's new birth certificate:				
Section 5 — Notarized signatures				
Read and understand before you sign this document. Making willful and knowing false statements on this form can lead to criminal and civil penalties.				
Acknowledgment				
I acknowledge the following: 1) I am signing this Acknowledgment for the purpose of establishing parentage of the child; 2) the alleged genetic parent identified above is an alleged genetic parent of the child; 3) the information provided and statements made in this form are true; 4) the parent who gave birth to the child was not married to anyone at the time of the child's conception, birth, or anytime in between, or at any time during the 300 days prior to the birth of the child; 5) I have not consented to the adoption of the child; 6) a court has not determined that I am not the parent of the child; 7) I have not surrendered my parental rights to a public or private child-caring agency and have not had my parental rights terminated by a court; 8) the child does not have a presumed parent, other acknowledged parent, adjudicated parent or intended parent other than the parent who gave birth to the child; 9) I understand that this Acknowledgment is the equivalent of an adjudication of parentage of the child and that a challenge to the Acknowledgment is permitted only under limited circumstances; 10) I understand the Statement of Rights, Responsibilities, Alternatives and Consequences listed on the final page of this Acknowledgment.				
Parent who gave birth to the child's name and signature — Do Not Sign Until Notary Is Present				
_____ Parent who gave birth to the child's printed name				Date signed: (mm/dd/yyyy)
_____ Parent who gave birth to the child's signature				
NOTARY	Signed in the state of:		County of:	
	This instrument was acknowledged on: (mm/dd/yyyy)		By: (Name of parent who gave birth to the child)	
	_____ Signature of notarial officer		My commission expires: (mm/dd/yyyy)	
	Notary Seal			
Alleged genetic parent's name and signature — Do Not Sign Until Notary Is Present				
_____ Alleged genetic parent's printed name				Date signed: (mm/dd/yyyy)
_____ Alleged genetic parent's signature				
NOTARY	Signed in the state of:		County of:	
	This instrument was acknowledged on: (mm/dd/yyyy)		By: (Name alleged genetic parent)	
	_____ Signature of notarial officer		My commission expires: (mm/dd/yyyy)	
	Notary Seal			
For Vital Records use only				
Date filed: (mm/dd/yyyy)				Per ORS 432.098(1)(d) Parentage is established upon filing of this form by the State Registrar of the Center for Health Statistics

Statement of Rights, Responsibilities, Alternatives and Consequences

This Voluntary Acknowledgment of Parentage Affidavit (Acknowledgment) is a legal document. Signing this Acknowledgment is voluntary. Signing this Acknowledgment has legal consequences so you may want to consult a lawyer before signing.

This Acknowledgment can not be used to establish parentage if:

- You are **not** an alleged genetic parent of the child.
- The parent who gave birth to the child was married to anyone at the time of the child's conception, birth, or anytime in between, or at any time during the 300 days prior to the birth of the child.
- You consented to the adoption of the child.
- A court determined that you are **not** the parent of the child.
- You surrendered your parental rights to a public or private child-caring agency.
- A court terminated your parental rights.
- The child has a presumed parent, other acknowledged parent, adjudicated parent or intended parent other than the parent who gave birth to the child.
- A second parent is already listed on the existing birth record.

When this Acknowledgment is properly signed, witnessed and filed with the Registrar of the Center for Health Statistics, none of the conditions above apply, and the Acknowledgment otherwise satisfies all conditions required to be valid under the law, it establishes the identified alleged genetic parent who has signed the Acknowledgment as a legal parent of the child.

Rights and responsibilities of parents: To be the legal parent means you have all the parental rights and responsibilities that a parent would have if the child was born in a marriage.

If you are a noncustodial parent:

- You have the right to visit the child or to seek custody of the child.
- You have the responsibility to contribute to the support of the child, even if there is no child support court order requiring the payment of a certain amount of money.
- If there is no existing child support order for the child, then one may be established. If there is an existing order, it may be increased or decreased by a court or administrative order.
- The child support order may be enforced by wage withholding, tax refund intercepts, property liens and other involuntary processes.
- The child may have the right to inherit from your estate and receive Social Security benefits based on your earnings.
- There could be other benefits and responsibilities as well.

If you are a custodial parent:

- You have the right to seek birth expenses for the child or to have a child support order established, modified and enforced.
- You have the responsibility to care for, maintain and control your child.
- The child may have the right to inherit from your estate and receive Social Security benefits based on your earnings.
- There could be other benefits and responsibilities as well.

Custody: By law, the parent who has physical custody of the child at the time this Acknowledgment is filed has legal custody. Only a court can legally change custody.

Alternatives to signing this Acknowledgment: You have alternatives to signing this Acknowledgment. Instead of signing this Acknowledgment you could ask a court to determine legal parentage of the child and to decide whether birth costs and child support should be awarded pursuant to ORS 109.155.

You may obtain genetic testing to help determine if the alleged genetic parent is the genetic parent of the child. Free genetic testing is available through the Oregon Child Support Program. Either of you may request these tests. If you sign this Acknowledgment without genetic testing and it is later determined you are not a genetic parent, you are still considered the parent of the child if or until legal action is taken to disestablish your parentage. There may be time limitations on your ability to be legally removed as a parent to the child.

Consequences of signing this Acknowledgment: By signing this Acknowledgment, you become the legal parent of the child. Please see the rights and responsibilities listed above. You have 60 days after filing this Acknowledgment to rescind or "take back" this Acknowledgment. You may have fewer than 60 days if you are a party to a case involving the child that is pending in court and the first hearing has already taken place. You may challenge this Acknowledgment up to one year after filing, for any reason, if genetic testing has not been completed. You may challenge this Acknowledgment at any time if you can prove fraud, duress or material mistake of fact. The legal responsibilities that come from signing this Acknowledgment, such as child support, will not be suspended during a challenge to this Acknowledgment. If you sign this Acknowledgment and later decide you want genetic testing, you may ask the Oregon Child Support Program for these tests up to one year after filing this Acknowledgment. If those tests show that the alleged genetic parent who has signed this Acknowledgment is not the genetic parent of the child, legal parentage may be set aside or "undone." This information is not exhaustive, and an attorney can advise on options after parentage is established.

Rights of a minor parent: If you are under 18 years of age and not legally emancipated by marriage or by a court order, you are a minor parent. As a minor parent, you may give authorizations and enter into agreements in adoption, juvenile court, or other proceedings concerning the care or custody of the child. As a minor parent, you have the right to have a guardian ad litem appointed before a child support order is entered against you. As a minor parent, you may file a petition on behalf of your minor child and if you are a minor custodial parent, you may enter a contract for an apartment and for utilities. A lawyer could best explain your rights as a minor parent.

Additional information: You can find more information about establishing parentage on the Oregon Child Support Program website, www.oregonchildsupport.gov. You can also contact their customer service team at 800-850-0228 or visit a local child support office to learn more or to discuss your rights to genetic testing. If you would like a lawyer, you can call the Oregon State Bar's Referral and Information Service at 800-452-7636.