



ADULT ADOPTION PROCESS

STEP	DESCRIPTION
1	Request an adult adoption application package from Adoption Services.
2	Submit a 'Registration to Receive Schedule 1 Information - Adult Adoption' form to Adoption Services.
3	Once the application is received and the case is allocated Adoption Services will contact the relevant parties to make an appointment for the provision of Schedule 1 information.
4	<p>After provision of Schedule 1 information, the Department of Communities will send the applicants an affidavit by registered post confirming that the relevant parties have been provided with Schedule 1 information.</p> <p>Adoption Services will have no further role unless requested to provide a report in relation to the proposed adoption by the Family Court of Western Australia.</p>
5	The applicants will need to provide notification to the birth parents of their intent to apply for an adoption order either in person or by registered post to the respective birth parents last known address.
6	The applicants will need to obtain all necessary court documents from the Family Court of WA and lodge the completed documents and the affidavit provided Adoption Services with The Family Court.
7	Further information regarding the court process can be obtained from the Family Court Website. familycourt.wa.gov.au



Dear Enquirer

Subject: Adult Adoption

Thank you for contacting the Department of Communities, Adoption Services regarding adult adoption. In the case of an adult adoption, the relevant parties are outlined in Section 69 (1)(a) of the *Adoption Act 1994* (the Act) as the *prospective adoptee and each of the prospective adoptive parents*. An adult can only be adopted by a person (or persons) who was their step-parent or carer immediately prior to the adult turning 18 years of age.

The Act also outlines that a person whose consent is required for an adult adoption must not sign a form of consent to the adoption unless they have been provided (both orally and in writing) with the information outlined in Schedule 1 of the Act. The information in Schedule 1 'Effective Consent' outlines such issues as the alternatives to adoption, the implications of adoption, the legal processes and the rights and responsibilities of the parties to the adoption. After Schedule 1 information has been provided, affidavits confirming that you have been provided with the information will be prepared and sent to you via registered mail. The original affidavits should be included with your application to the Family Court of Western Australia. There is no further involvement from Adoption Services unless requested to do so by the Family Court.

Please note that although birth parents are not required to sign consents to an adult adoption, Section 69(4) of the Act requires that written notice of the intention to file an application for an adoption order must be provided to each of the adoptee's birth parents at least 30 days before the application is filed. This can be delivered personally or by registered post to the respective birth parent's last known address.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call 1800 182 178 and request to speak to the duty officer for adult adoptions.

Yours sincerely

Duty Officer: Adult Adoptions

Adoption Services

Adoption Services
Department of Communities
Locked Bag 5000
FREMANTLE WA 6959



Department of Communities

REGISTRATION TO RECEIVE SCHEDULE 1 INFORMATION – ADULT ADOPTION

The *Adoption Act 1994* states:

A person who is 18 or more years of age may be adopted by a relative or a person who was a carer or step-parent of the first-mentioned person immediately before the first-mentioned person attained 18 years of age.

“**Step-parent**” means, in relation to a person, another person who –

- (a) is not a birth parent or adoptive parent of the first mentioned person; and
- (b) is married to, or the de facto partner of, the first- mentioned person’s birth parent or adoptive parent.

“**Carer**” in relation to a child, means a person with whom the child lives and who, either alone or jointly with another person, has the daily care of the child.

APPLICANT 1: STEP-PARENT ☐ CARER ☐ (Please tick appropriate box)

Surname (please print)..... Given Names..... Previous Names.....

Date of Birth..... Place of Birth..... Aboriginal ☐ Torres Strait Islander ☐ Both ☐ N/A ☐

Address..... Postcode.....

Postal Address (if same as above write ‘as above’)..... Postcode.....

☎ (home)..... (mobile)..... (work)

(email).....

Citizenship..... Religion..... Language/s spoken

In the case of a **carer** provide details of whether the placement was a private arrangement or arranged by the Department of Communities.....

Relationship to Applicant 2: De facto ☐ Married ☐ Length of Relationship.....

APPLICANT 2: BIRTH PARENT ☐ CO-CARER ☐ (Please tick appropriate box)

Surname (please print)..... Given Names..... Previous Names.....

Date of Birth..... Place of Birth..... Aboriginal ☐ Torres Strait Islander ☐ Both ☐ N/A ☐

Postal Address (if same as applicant 1 write ‘as above’)..... Postcode.....

☎ (home)..... (mobile)..... (work)

(email).....

Citizenship..... Religion..... Language/s spoken



ADULT (CHILD) TO BE ADOPTED

Surname (please print)..... Given Names..... Previous Names.....

Male/Female..... Date of Birth..... Place of Birth.....

Postal Address (if same as parents/carer write 'as above').....

.....Postcode.....

☎ (home).....(mobile).....(work)

(email).....

Aboriginal ☐ Torres Strait Islander ☐ Both ☐ N/A ☐ Citizenship..... Religion.....

Language/s spoken Birth parent name/s (if known)

Were you in the care of the applicant/s **immediately before turning 18**? Yes ☐ No ☐

At what age did you enter the care of your step-parent or carer?.....