

Voluntary Adoption Registry

What is it?

The Voluntary Adoption Registry is a system that allows adopted children, birth parents, and biological siblings to locate each other if they wish.

Who maintains the registry?

The Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services (PRS) maintains a list of people who have been adopted in Texas. The department also maintains a list of private adoption agencies that have their own registries.

If you were adopted through a private agency that maintains its own registry, PRS staff will identify that agency and direct you to the correct registry. If you were placed privately, by PRS or by an agency that uses the PRS registry, PRS is the agency through which you would register.

How does it work?

Birth parents, adopted individuals, and their biological brothers and sisters can register by submitting identifying information that will be retained by PRS for the time specified by the registrant. All submitted information is confidential.

If the adopted person and both parents or any two biological siblings register, a match is made. When a match is made, the identifying information about each is released to the others. A partial match, one birth parent and the adopted person, can be made under certain conditions. The youngest living adoptive sibling of an adoptee who shares a common birth parent must be 21 years old before any match can be made, including matches involving birth parents.

Requirements:

Adopted individuals must be 21 years old.

Biological siblings must be 21 years old.

Each person must provide proof of identity and age.

Each person must submit proof of having received one hour of counseling from a qualified social worker or mental health professional.

Costs:

A \$5.00 fee is required by PRS to determine the proper adoption registry for your use. A \$15.00 fee is required to complete the registration.

For more information contact:

Central Adoption Registry
TX Dept. of PRS PO Box 140123
Austin, TX 787140123 Phone: (512) 4587388

PRS assistance and services are available to anyone without regard to age, race, marital status, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin, or political belief. If you feel that you have been discriminated against, you may complain to the PRS Civil Rights Department.