

Who Can Witness a Voluntary Declaration of Parentage?

In California, authorized witnesses from the following agencies are qualified to witness a Voluntary Declaration of Parentage:

- Hospitals (at the time of birth)
- Local child support agency
- Local registrar of births and deaths
- Courts (Family Law Facilitator)
- County welfare office
- Notary public *

When signing the Declaration outside of California, a notary public* or equivalent local official are the only authorized witnesses. A Declaration must be completed and signed by both parents with signatures properly witnessed and filed with the Parentage Opportunity Program before legal parentage is established.

* A notary public may charge a fee for services.

It's easy to establish legal parentage without going to court—and it's free!

For more information
CalParentage.org

Contact
askpop@dcss.ca.gov
Phone 866.901.3212
Fax 916.464.5898

Hours of Service
Monday-Friday 8am-5pm
Saturday-Sunday Closed