



# VOLUNTARY DECLARATION OF PARENTAGE

Legal parentage is easy to establish without going to court - and it's **FREE!**

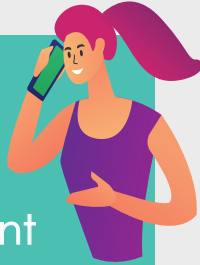
## 1 What is it?



A free program that establishes legal parentage

## 2 Why do I care?

- A name on the birth certificate doesn't count
- Court is expensive
- Gives your child important rights



## 3 Who is it for?



Unmarried parents,  
same-sex parents

Must meet eligibility requirements

## 4 How do I do it?



Sign a Voluntary  
Declaration of Parentage!

## 5 Where do I get it?



Visit [CalParentage.org](http://CalParentage.org) or  
email [askpop@dcss.ca.gov](mailto:askpop@dcss.ca.gov)

## 6 Who can witness?

- Hospitals (at the time of birth)
- Court (Family Law Facilitator)
- County welfare office
- Notary public
- County registrars of births & deaths
- County child support agencies



## 7 What's next?



Mail your original, signed and witnessed Voluntary Declaration of Parentage to:

**Parentage Opportunity Program**  
P.O. Box 419070 - MS 241  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9070

(Photocopies will not be accepted)