

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)
- County registrar of births and deaths
- Courts (Family Law Facilitator)
- County child support agencies
- County welfare office
- Notary public*

When signing the Declaration outside of California, a notary public* or equivalent local official are the only authorized witnesses. The 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 visit CalParentage.org

Contact Us

AskPOP@dcss.ca.gov

916.464.1982

Hours of Service

Monday - Friday: 8 AM - 5 PM

Saturday - Sunday: Closed