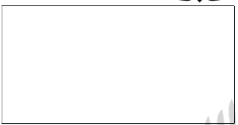







KŌNAE My Records Guide

How do I get my pre-adoptive birth certificate?

New Zealand Birth Certificate Te Tohu Whānautanga ki Aotearoa	
	child / tamaiti
	mother / whaea
	father / matua



Published: May 2025

About this Easy Read



This Easy Read is about how to get your pre-adoptive birth certificate if you were **adopted**.



Being **adopted** means a family:

- legally take a child
- and
- bring it up as their own.



This Easy Read is of a webpage from the website **Kōnae – My Records Guide**.

KŌNAE My Records Guide



Kōnae – My Records Guide is a website that supports you to get your **records** from when you were **in care**.

The website is called Kōnae for short.



Here **records** means the information an organisation has kept / made about a person.



Here **in care** means when an organisation is put in charge of a person.



The organisation decides things for the person like:

- where they live
- who their carer is
- their upbringing.





The Kōnae **website** is found at:

www.konae.org.nz



The **Citizens Advice Bureau** is the kaitiaki / guardian of Kōnae.



The **Citizens Advice Bureau** provides free advice to people about things like:

- **rights**
- how to get the services you need.



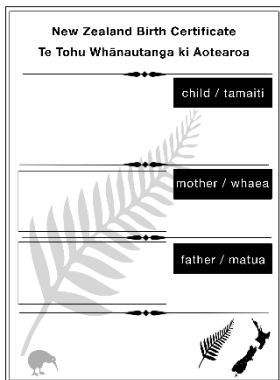


Rights are things that you should get to live a good life.

Everyone has a right to things like:

- housing
- being kept safe
- having enough food to eat.

What is a pre-adoptive birth certificate?



A birth certificate is an official document made by the government with information about your birth.

If you were adopted you might have a pre-adoptive birth certificate.



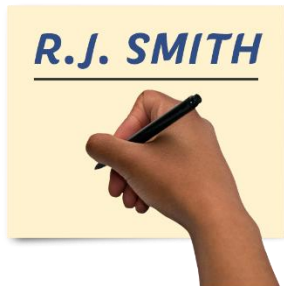
A pre-adoptive birth certificate has information on it like your:

- birth name
- **birth parents** like their:
 - names
 - ages
 - where they were born.



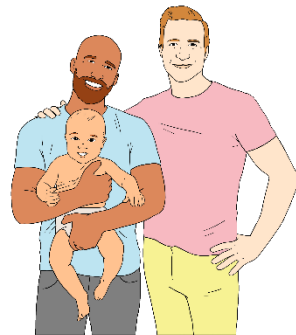


Birth parents means the parents when the child is born.



A pre-adoptive birth certificate also has information on it like:

- the name your **adoptive parents** gave you
- the names of your adoptive parents
- the date of your final **Adoption Order**
- who made the final Adoption Order like the:
 - court
 - magistrate / judge.





Adoptive parents are the parents who:

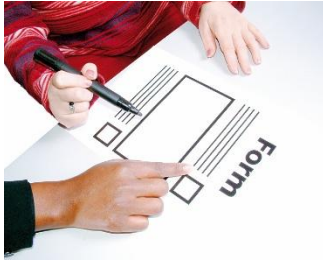
- legally take a child
- and
- bring the child up as their own.



An **Adoption Order** is the official document that:

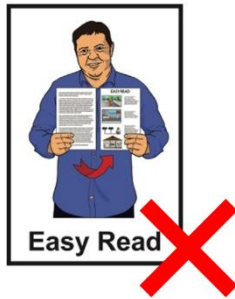
- makes the adoptive parents the parents of a child
- says the birth parents are no longer the parents.





To get a copy of your pre-adoptive birth certificate fill out this form:

www.tinyurl.com/yc6hy37e



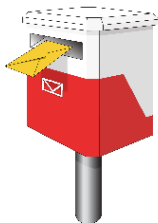
This form is **not** in Easy Read.

It costs money to:



- get a copy of the certificate
- and**

- have it sent in the post.



Where will my pre-adoptive birth certificate be sent?

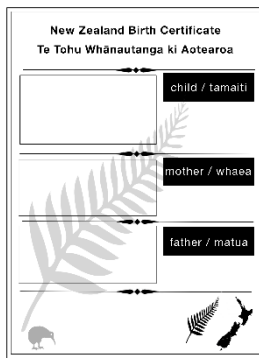


Your pre-adoptive birth certificate will be sent to different places depending on if you were adopted:

- before 1 March 1986

or

- after 1 March 1986.



If you were adopted before 1 March 1986

If you were adopted before
1 March 1986 your pre-adoptive birth
certificate will be sent to your
adoption:

- social worker
- or
- counsellor.

This is because of the **Adult
Adoption Act 1985**.

The **Adult Adoption Act 1985**
changed the way adopted people
could get their adoption information.



When you fill out the form to get your pre-adoptive birth certificate you will be asked to choose an adoption:

- social worker

or

- counsellor.



This person will:

- arrange to give you your certificate
- give you support to find your birth parents if you want to.





Your certificate will be sent directly to you if you:

- were adopted before
1 March 1986

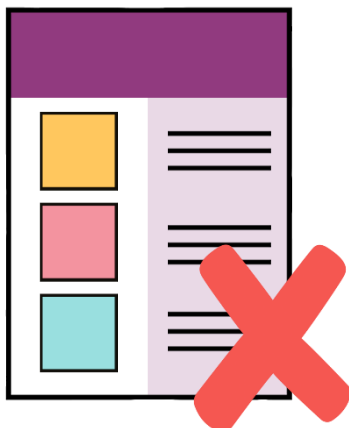
and

- do not live in New Zealand.

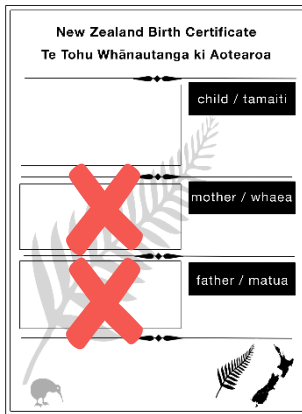
**If you were adopted after
1 March 1986**



If you were adopted after
1 March 1986 your certificate will be
sent directly to you.



Your birth parents may have put a
veto on their information.



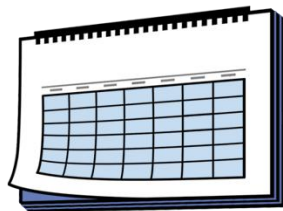
Here a **veto** means the names of the birth parents are not on a pre-adoptive birth certificate.

Vetos:

- run out after 10 years

but

- can be made to run for another 10 years.

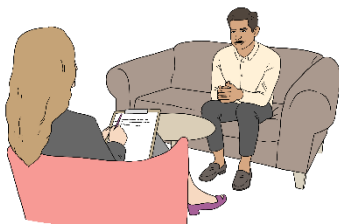


If you want to know information about why the veto is on your certificate you can talk to an adoption:

- social worker

or

- counsellor.



Getting support



Asking for your adoption information can make you feel lots of things.



It can be good to have someone to talk to about it.

You can talk to your:

- whānau / family
- friends
- support person.



Kōnae has information on where to get support you if you want to talk about how it feels to get your records.



Find out what support you can get at this **webpage**:

www.konae.org.nz/support



This website is **not** in Easy Read.



This information has been written by the Citizens Advice Bureau.



It has been translated into Easy Read by the Make it Easy Kia Māmā Mai service of People First New Zealand Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi.



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