



# Collection of Family Information About Adopted Persons, Birth Parents, and Adoptive Parents: Summary of State Laws

Requirements for collecting information about persons involved in an adoption vary from State to State. Each State has laws that specify the kinds of information that may be collected and shared among the parties.

## Who May Collect Information

State laws specify the persons or entities authorized to collect information. In most States, information about the child to be adopted and the child's birth family is compiled by the child-placing agency or

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To find information on all the States and territories, order a copy of the full-length PDF by calling 800.394.3366 or 703.385.7565, or download it at [www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws\\_policies/statutes/collectionall.pdf](http://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws_policies/statutes/collectionall.pdf)



the department of social services. In some States, the court may designate another qualified person, such as a social worker or specially trained investigator, to complete the history of the birth family. In approximately nine States, the child's parent or other person placing the child for adoption is required to submit family information to the court.<sup>1</sup>

Information about the adopting parents is collected as part of the adoption home study or investigation, and in most States, this study is completed by a child-placing agency or the department of social services. Other individuals, such as social workers or private investigators, may also be certified to conduct these investigations.

## Information About the Adopted Person

Generally, information compiled about the child to be adopted includes medical and genetic history, family and social background, mental health history, placement history, and any history of abuse or neglect. Some States are more specific in their requirements and require detailed information on the child, including dental, immunization, and developmental history, as well as any school records. Approximately seven States require information on whether the child is eligible for any State or Federal adoption assistance.<sup>2</sup>

## Information About Birth Parents

States generally require information about the birth parents' medical and genetic history, family and social background, mental health history, religious background, ethnic and racial background, and educational level attained. Some States also provide for information to be collected on physical appearance, talents, hobbies, field of occupation, and drugs taken by the mother during pregnancy. In most instances, only nonidentifying information is shared with the adopting parents. However, in Colorado, New York, and American Samoa, the names, addresses, and other identifying information about the birth parents, if obtainable, will be provided to the adoptive parents.

<sup>1</sup> The word *approximately* is used to stress the fact that States frequently amend their laws. This information is current as of July 2006. The States that currently have this requirement include Arizona, Indiana, Iowa, Montana, North Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Washington, and West Virginia.

<sup>2</sup> Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Texas, and Vermont.

## Information About Adoptive Parents

Typically, prior to or immediately after an adoption petition is filed with the court, an investigation of the prospective adoptive parents is conducted to determine the suitability of the home for the child to be adopted. All States also require a criminal background check of the adoptive parents, and many States also require a check of the State's child abuse registry.<sup>3</sup> The report produced from such investigations is known as the home study, family profile, or preplacement report.

In general, to determine suitability of an adoptive placement, the home study will look at the petitioner's physical health, emotional maturity, financial situation, and family and social background. In some States, the home study or preplacement report will also include the following information:

- Employment history<sup>4</sup>
- Racial and ethnic background<sup>5</sup>
- Religious background<sup>6</sup>
- History of drug or alcohol abuse<sup>7</sup>
- History of domestic violence<sup>8</sup>

For more information about the home study process, see the Child Welfare Information Gateway factsheet, *The Adoption Home Study Process*:

[www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/f\\_homestu.cfm](http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/f_homestu.cfm)

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<sup>3</sup> The Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-248), that was enacted in July 2006, will require all States to conduct national criminal records checks, as well as child abuse registry checks, on all prospective adoptive parents. For a more detailed discussion of this requirement, see *Criminal Background Checks for Prospective Adoptive and Foster Parents*, available from Child Welfare Information Gateway at [www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws\\_policies/statutes/background.cfm](http://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws_policies/statutes/background.cfm).

<sup>4</sup> In Michigan, Montana, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Dakota, West Virginia, and Puerto Rico.

<sup>5</sup> In Michigan, Montana, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Vermont, and the District of Columbia.

<sup>6</sup> In Arizona, Illinois, Montana, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and the District of Columbia.

<sup>7</sup> In Colorado, Michigan, Montana, North Carolina, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

<sup>8</sup> In Colorado, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, North Carolina, and Vermont.

## Accessing This Information

Child Welfare Information Gateway produces a separate factsheet on accessing family information from adoption records. To read *Access to Adoption Records*, go to:  
[www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws\\_policies/statutes/infoaccessap.cfm](http://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws_policies/statutes/infoaccessap.cfm)

This publication is a product of the State Statutes Series prepared by Child Welfare Information Gateway. While every attempt has been made to be complete, additional information on these topics may be in other sections of a State's code as well as in agency regulations, case law, and informal practices and procedures.

**Alabama****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ala. Code § 26-10A-19**

A preplacement investigation or a postplacement investigation may be performed by one of the following:

- The Department of Human Resources
- A licensed child-placing agency
- An individual or agency licensed by the department to perform investigations
- An individual appointed by the court who is a licensed social worker

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ala. Code § 26-10A-19**

The investigation shall include information concerning:

- Any property owned by the adopted person
- The medical histories, both physical and mental, of the adopted person

The medical history shall be provided to the petitioner in writing before the decree is entered.

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ala. Code § 26-10A-19**

The investigation shall include information concerning:

- Why the birth parents, if living, desire to be relieved of the care, support, and guardianship of the child
- Whether the birth parents have abandoned the child or are otherwise unsuited to parent the child
- The medical histories, both physical and mental, of the birth parents

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ala. Code § 26-10A-19**

An investigation shall be made to determine the suitability of each petitioner and the home in which the adopted person will be placed. The investigation shall include:

- A criminal background investigation
- Any other circumstances that might be relevant to the placement of a child with the petitioners

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**Alaska****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Alaska Stat. § 25.23.100(d)**

An investigation shall be made by the department or any other qualified agency or person designated by the court.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Alaska Stat. § 25.23.100(d)**

An investigation shall inquire into the conditions and antecedents of the child sought to be adopted.

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Alaska Stat. §§ 25.23.185; 18.50.510**

The agency or individual placing the person for adoption, or the petitioner, shall file with the court the following information:

- The address of each parent named on the original birth certificate
- The age of the birth parent at the time of the adopted person's birth
- The heritage of the birth parent, including national origin, ethnic background, and tribal membership
- The medical history of the birth parent and of blood relatives of the birth parent
- The number of years of school completed by the birth parent at the time of the adopted person's birth
- A physical description of the birth parent, including height, weight, and color of hair, eyes, and skin
- The existence of other children of the birth parent
- Whether the birth parent was alive at the time of adoption
- The religion of the birth parent

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Alaska Stat. § 25.23.100(d)**

An investigation shall be made of the petitioner for the purpose of ascertaining whether the adoptive home is a suitable home for the child and whether the proposed adoption is in the best interest of the child.

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**American Samoa****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Code § 45.0414**

A written report shall be prepared by either of the following:

- The Department of Health
- A child-placing agency

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Code § 45.0414**

The written report shall include the following:

- The physical and mental condition of the child
- The child's own disposition toward the adoption in any case in which the child's age makes this feasible

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Code § 45.0414**

The written report shall include the following:

- The child's family background, including the names of the parents and other identifying data regarding the parents, if obtainable
- The reasons for the termination of the parents' parental rights

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Code § 45.0414**

The written report shall include the following:

- The physical and mental health, emotional stability, and moral integrity of the petitioner
- The ability of the petitioner to promote the welfare of the child
- The suitability of the adoption of this child by this petitioner
- The length of time the child has been in the care and custody of the petitioner

**Arizona****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Rev. Stat. §§ 8-112; 8-129(A)**

Before placing a child for adoption, the division or the agency or the person placing the child, if the child is not placed by the division, shall compile and provide to the prospective adoptive parents a detailed written report about the birth parents or members of a birth parent's family.

The division, an agency, or an officer of the court shall complete the social study on the adoptive family before the hearing on the petition to adopt.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 8-112**

The social study shall include:

- The social history, heritage, and mental and physical condition of the child and the child's birth parents
- The child's current placement in the prospective adoptive parent's home and the child's adjustment to that home

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 8-129**

The written report provided to the adopting parents shall include a health and genetic history and all nonidentifying information about the birth parents or members of a birth parent's family.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. §§ 8-105(E); 8-112**

Before any prospective adoptive parent may petition to adopt a child, the person shall be certified by the court as acceptable to adopt children. The division shall not present for certification a prospective adoptive parent unless that person has a valid fingerprint clearance card. This investigation and report to the court shall include:

- A complete social history
- The applicant's financial condition
- The applicant's moral fitness
- The applicant's religious background
- The physical and mental health condition of the applicants
- Any court action for or adjudication of child abuse, abandonment of children, dependency, or termination of parental rights in which the applicant had control, care, or custody of the child who was the subject of the action
- Any other information relevant to the fitness of the prospective adoptive parents

The social study shall include the following:

- The prospective adoptive parent's suitability to adopt
- Any financial arrangement concerning the proposed adoption made by the birth parents, the division, an agency, an attorney, or the prospective adoptive parents
- A State and Federal criminal records check of the prospective adoptive parent and each adult who is living permanently with the prospective adoptive parent except a birth or legal parent with custody of the child
- A central registry records check with the division, including any history of child welfare referrals, of the prospective adoptive parent and each adult who is living permanently with the prospective adoptive parent
- Any other information that is pertinent to the adoption proceedings

**Arkansas****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Code § 9-9-212**

Before placement of the child in the home of the petitioner, a home study shall be conducted by a licensed child welfare agency or any licensed certified social worker.

The Department of Health and Human Services shall conduct a home only when the adoptive parent is indigent and lives in Arkansas.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Code §§ 9-9-212(g); 9-9-505**

The report on the child shall include a detailed, written health history and genetic and social history that excludes information that would identify birth parents or members of a birth parent's family.

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Code § 9-9-505**

The prospective adoptive parents shall be provided with a written report about the birth parents and birth family members that includes:

- A health and genetic history
- A social history
- Other nonidentifying information

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Code § 9-9-212(b)**

The home study shall address whether the adoptive home is a suitable home, and shall include a recommendation as to the approval of the petitioner as an adoptive parent.

The home study shall include a State-of-residence criminal background check, if available, and national fingerprint-based criminal background check on the adoptive parents and all household members age 16 and older. A child maltreatment central registry check shall be required for all household members age 10 and older as a part of the home study, if such a registry is available in their State of residence.

Additional national fingerprint-based criminal background checks are not required for international adoptions as they are already a part of the requirements for adoption of the Federal Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Department of Homeland Security.

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**California****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Family Code §§ 8706; 8806; 8817**

The department or county adoption agency shall complete all required reports.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Family Code §§ 8706; 8817**

The prospective adoptive parents must be provided with a written report on the child that includes:

- The child's medical background, including all known diagnostic information and current medical reports
- Any psychological evaluations
- Scholastic information
- Developmental history and family life

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Family Code §§ 8706; 8817**

The agency must provide a written report on the medical background of the child's birth parents so far as ascertainable.

The birth parents may provide a blood sample at a clinic or hospital approved by the State Department of Health Services. The purpose of the stored sample of blood is to provide a blood sample from which DNA testing can be done at a later date after entry of the order of adoption at the request of the adoptive parents or the adopted child.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Family Code §§ 8806; 8811; 8908**

The report shall include:

- A criminal background check
- An assessment of the ability of the prospective adoptive parents to provide adequate and proper care and guidance
- An assessment of whether the proposed home is suitable for the child

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**Colorado****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 19-5-207**

A written home study must be completed by:

- The county department of social services
- A child-placing agency
- A qualified individual

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 19-5-207**

The prospective adoptive parents must be provided the following information:

- The child's physical and mental condition
- The child's family background, including names of parents if obtainable
- The child's disposition toward the adoption
- The length of time the child has been in the custody of the petitioner

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 19-5-207**

The prospective adoptive parents must be provided the following information:

- The birth parents' family background, including names and other identifying information, if obtainable
- The reasons for terminating the birth parents' parental rights

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 19-5-207**

The home study shall address the adoptive parents:

- Physical and mental health
- Emotional stability
- Moral integrity
- The parents' ability to promote the welfare of the adopted person
- The suitability of the match
- Criminal background history
- Child abuse and neglect and spousal abuse history
- Any history of drug convictions

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**Connecticut****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 45a-727**

The commissioner of children and family services or a child-placing agency shall make an investigation and written report to the probate court.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 45a-727**

The report shall indicate:

- The physical and mental status of the child
- The physical, mental, genetic, and educational history of the child, including information about:
  - » The child's health status at the time of placement
  - » The child's birth, neonatal, and other medical, psychological, psychiatric, and dental history
  - » The child's immunization record
  - » The available results of medical, psychological, psychiatric, and dental examinations
- Past and existing relationships between the child and the child's siblings, birth parents, extended family, and other persons who have had physical possession of or legal access to the child
- The child's educational history including, to the extent known, the enrollment and performance of the child in educational institutions, the results of educational testing and standardized tests, and special educational needs, if any
- History of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse suffered by the child, if any

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 45a-746**

To the extent reasonably available, the following information concerning the birth parents shall be provided:

- The age of the birth parents in years at the birth of the child
- The heritage of the birth parents that shall include nationality, ethnic background, and race
- The number of years of school completed by the birth parents
- The general physical appearance of the birth parents at the time of the child's birth, including height, weight, color of hair, eyes, skin, and other information of a similar nature
- The talents, hobbies, and special interests of the birth parents
- The existence of any other child or children born to either birth parent
- The reasons for placing the child for adoption or for the birth parents' parental rights being terminated
- The religion of the birth parents
- The birth parents' occupations in general terms
- The health histories of the birth parents and blood relatives
- The manner in which plans for the child's future were made by the birth parents
- The relationship between the birth parents
- Any psychological, psychiatric, or social evaluations, including the dates, any diagnosis, and a summary of any findings
- Any other relevant nonidentifying information

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 45a-727**

The report shall indicate the physical, mental, social, and financial condition of the prospective adoptive parents and whether the proposed adoption is in the best interests of the child.

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**Delaware****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Code Tit. 13, § 912**

A social study and report shall be completed by:

- The Department of Services for Children, Youth, and Their Families
- A licensed or authorized child-placing agency

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Code Tit. 13, § 912**

The report shall include information regarding the child's:

- Physical and mental condition
- Family background and eligibility for adoption

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Code Tit. 13, § 912**

The report shall include nonidentifying information about the child's family background.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Code Tit. 13, § 912**

The report shall include information regarding:

- The suitability of the placement for the child
- The suitability of the adoptive parents and the proposed adoptive home

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**Florida****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 63.082; 63.092**

A birth family social and medical history must be completed by the adoption entity. "Adoption entity" includes:

- The department
- A child-placing or child-caring agency
- An intermediary

A home investigation of the adoptive parents must be completed by:

- A licensed child-placing agency
- A child-caring agency
- A licensed professional
- An agency

The department is required to perform the home investigation only if there is no licensed child-placing agency or professional in the county in which the prospective adoptive parent resides.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 63.082**

The family social history includes the biological, sociological, and medical history of the child.

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 63.082**

The family social history includes the biological, sociological, and medical history of the birth parents.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 63.092; 63.125**

Before placing the minor in the intended adoptive home, a preliminary home study must be performed. The study must include, at a minimum:

- A check of the central abuse registry and criminal records
- An assessment of the physical environment of the home
- A determination of the financial security of the adoptive parents
- Documentation of counseling and education on adoptive parenting

A final home investigation must be conducted before the adoption becomes final to determine whether the adoptive home is a suitable home for the child and whether the proposed adoption is in the best interest of the child.

**Georgia****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Code § 19-8-16**

An investigation shall be conducted by:

- A child-placing agency appointed by the court
- Any other independent agent appointed by the court

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Code § 19-8-17**

Information about the child shall include:

- The circumstances under which the child came to be placed for adoption
- The physical and mental condition of the child, insofar as this can be determined by the aid of competent medical authority

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Code § 19-8-23**

Nonidentifying genetic, social, and health history about the birth parents may be released to the adoptive parents.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Code §§ 19-8-16; 19-8-17**

The investigation shall include:

- A criminal records check of each petitioner
- Whether the proposed adoptive parents are financially, physically, and mentally able to have the permanent custody of the child
- Whether or not the adoption is in the best interests of the child
- The suitability of the home for the child

**Guam****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Code Tit. 19, § 4210**

At the direction of the court, the Division of Social Services shall complete a social study.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Code Tit. 19, § 4210**

The study shall include:

- The child's social history
- The present condition of the child
- The child's adjustment to the petitioner's home, if applicable

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Code Tit. 19, § 4210**

The study shall include the child's social history.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Code Tit. 19, § 4210**

The study shall include:

- The suitability of the prospective adoptive parents' home
  - Any other pertinent information
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**Hawaii****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Rev. Stat. §§ 578-8; 578-14.5**

The Department of Human Services shall investigate the fitness of the petitioners to adopt the child.

The Department of Health shall prepare a medical history form on the birth family.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 578-8**

The investigation shall determine whether:

- The child is an adoptable child
- The adoption is in the child's best interest

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 578-14.5**

The medical information form shall provide the birth parents' medical background, including any known genetic disorders or inheritable diseases or afflictions.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: § 578-8**

The investigation shall determine whether the parent is:

- Mentally, physically, and otherwise suitable to adopt a child
  - Financially capable of giving the child a proper home and education
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**Idaho****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Code § 16-1506**

A social investigation must be completed by:

- The Department of Health and Welfare
- A child-placing agency
- A private investigator

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Code § 16-1506**

The investigative report shall include reasonably known or available medical and genetic information.

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Code § 16-1506**

The investigative report shall include reasonably known or available medical and genetic information regarding both birth parents.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Code § 16-1506**

Prior to the placement for adoption of any child in the home of prospective adoptive parents, a thorough social investigation of the prospective adoptive family and all of its members shall be completed.

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**Illinois****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Comp. Stat. Ch. 750 §§ 50/6; 50/18.4**

An investigation of the adoptive parents shall be performed by:

- A child welfare agency approved by the Department of Children and Family Services
- A person deemed competent by the court
- In Cook County, the Court Services Division of the Cook County Department of Public Aid
- The Department of Children and Family Services, if the court determines that no child welfare agency is available or that the petitioner is financially unable to pay for the investigation

A report on the birth family shall be prepared by:

- A child-placing agency
- The Department of Children and Family Services

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Comp. Stat. Ch. 750 §§ 50/18.4; 50/18.05; 50/6**

Information about the child includes:

- The actual date and place of birth
- The child's medical and mental health history
- The child's religion, if ascertainable
- Whether the child is a proper subject for adoption

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Comp. Stat. Ch. 750 § 50/18.4**

The following nonidentifying information about the birth parents shall be provided to the adoptive parents:

- The age of the birth parents
- Their race, religion, and ethnic background
- The birth parents' general physical appearance
- Their education, occupation, hobbies, interests, and talents
- The existence of other children born to the birth parents
- Information about birth grandparents
- Their country of origin and reason for emigrating, if applicable
- The relationship between the birth parents
- A detailed medical and health history of the birth parents and immediate relatives

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Comp. Stat. Ch. 750 § 50/6**

The investigation of the adoptive parents shall include:

- » A determination of the character, reputation, health, and general standing in the community of the petitioners
- » The religious faith of the petitioners
- » Whether the petitioners are proper persons to adopt the child
- » A fingerprint-based criminal background check

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**Indiana****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Code §§ 31-19-2-7.5; 31-19-17-2**

The investigation of the prospective adoptive parent shall be conducted by:

- A licensed child-placing agency
- A county office of family and children

The report on the birth parents shall be prepared by:

- The person placing the child
- A licensed child-placing agency
- A county office of family and children

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Code §§ 31-19-2-7; 31-19-8-6**

A report shall be prepared that includes the child's:

- Health status and medical history, including neonatal, psychological, physiological, and medical care
- The former environment and antecedents of the child
- Possible barriers to the child's placement, including ethnic background, race, language, disabilities, or membership in a sibling group

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Code §§ 31-19-2-7; 31-19-17-2**

The report on the birth parents shall include:

- The health status of the birth parents
- A medical history
- A summary of medical, psychological, and educational records

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: §§ 31-19-8-6; 31-19-2-7.5**

The investigation of the adoptive parents shall address:

- The suitability of the proposed adoptive home
- The results of a criminal background check

The report may not contain information concerning the financial condition of the adoptive parents.

**Iowa****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 600.8**

The investigation of the prospective adoptive parent shall be conducted by:

- A child-placing agency
- The department
- An investigator

A background information investigation of the birth family shall be made by:

- The agency
- The person making an independent placement
- An investigator

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 600.8; 600A.4**

The report on the child shall include, to the extent available:

- A complete family medical and social history, including any known genetic, metabolic, or familial disorders
- A complete medical and developmental history of the child
- The child's racial, ethnic, and religious background
- An account of the minor child's prior and existing relationship with any relative, foster parent, or other individual with whom the minor child regularly lives or regularly visits

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 600.8; 600A.4**

The report on the birth parents shall include, to the extent available:

- A complete family medical and social history
- A general physical description

The information provided shall not include any identifying information.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 600.8**

The investigation shall determine the following:

- Whether the home of the prospective adoptive parent is suitable for the child to be adopted
- How the prospective adoptive parent's emotional maturity, finances, health, relationships, and any other relevant factor may affect his or her ability to care for the child
- Whether the prospective adoptive parent has been convicted of a crime under a law of any State or has a record of founded child abuse
- Whether adoption is in the best interests of the child

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**Kansas****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 59-2132**

An assessment of the adoptive home must be completed by:

- A licensed child-placing agency
- A court-approved licensed social worker
- The department

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 59-2130**

The following information shall be filed with the adoption petition:

- A complete written genetic, medical, and social history of the child
- Any hospital records pertaining to the child
- The child's birth verification, including the date, time, and place of birth and the name of the attending physician

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 59-2130**

The following information shall be filed with the adoption petition:

- A complete written genetic, medical, and social history of the child
- Any hospital records pertaining to the child
- The child's birth verification, including the date, time, and place of birth and the name of the attending physician

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 59-2132**

The assessment shall:

- Verify financial information
- Clear the name of the petitioner with the child abuse and neglect registry and, when appropriate, with a similar registry in another State or nation
- Determine whether the petitioner has been convicted of a felony for any act described in articles 34, 35, or 36 of chapter 21 or, within the last 5 years been convicted of a felony violation of the uniform controlled substances act, §§ 65-4101, et. seq.
- Clarify any genetic and medical history
- Assess the petitioner's home and the ability of the petitioner to care for the child

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**Kentucky****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 199.510**

An adoption investigation shall be conducted by:

- The Cabinet for Families and Children
- The individual, agency, or institution designated by the court

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 199.510**

The investigation shall determine whether the child is suitable for adoption.

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 199.520**

The health history and other nonidentifying background information of birth parents and blood relatives of the adopted person shall be provided to the adoptive parents.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 199.510**

The investigation shall determine whether:

- The proposed adoptive parents are financially able and morally fit to have the care, custody, and training of the child
- The adoption is in the best interest of the adopted person

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**Louisiana****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Children's Code. Art. 1173; 1207; 1229**

The department shall investigate a proposed agency or private adoption and submit a confidential report of its findings to the court. The department may delegate the performance of this investigation to a licensed private adoption agency, but the department remains responsible for ensuring the accuracy and thoroughness of the resulting report and for the safety and welfare of the child.

A preplacement home study may be conducted by:

- A social worker in the employ of a licensed agency
- A social worker
- A licensed professional counselor, psychologist, or psychiatrist

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Children's Code. Art. 1207; 1229**

The findings of the report shall address:

- The availability of the child for adoption
- The child's physical and mental condition
- Other factors regarding the suitability of the child for adoption in the petitioner's home

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Children's Code. Art. 1124; 1125**

A surrendering parent shall execute a Statement of Family History that shall be given to the prospective adoptive parents at the time of placement. The Statement of Family History shall contain the following nonidentifying information, if known:

- The date of birth of the birth parents
- Explicit and extensive medical and genetic history of the birth parents and their immediate families

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Children's Code. Art. 1173; 1207; 1227**

The findings of the report shall include:

- The moral and financial fitness of the petitioner
- The conditions of the proposed adoptive home with respect to health, adjustment, and other advantages or disadvantages to the child

The sheriff and department shall conduct a criminal records check for all Federal and State arrests and convictions and validated complaints of child abuse or neglect, in this or any other State of each prospective adoptive parent.

**Maine****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Rev. Stat. Tit. 18-A, § 9-304**

A background study shall be conducted by:

- The Department of Human Services
- A child-placing agency

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Rev. Stat. Tit. 18-A, § 9-304**

The study must include:

- A current medical, psychological, and developmental history of the child
- An account of the child's prenatal care and medical condition at birth
- The results of any newborn screening
- Any subsequent medical, psychological, or psychiatric examination and diagnosis
- Any physical, sexual, or emotional abuse suffered by the child
- A record of any immunizations and health care received since birth
- The conditions and antecedents of the child to determine whether the child is a proper subject for adoption

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. Tit. 18-A, § 9-304**

The study must include:

- Relevant information concerning the medical, psychological, and social history of the birth parents, including any known disease or hereditary disposition to disease
- The history of the use of drugs and alcohol
- The health of the birth mother during her pregnancy
- Any drug or medication taken by the birth mother during pregnancy
- The health of the birth parents at the time of the child's birth

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. Tit. 18-A, § 9-304**

A background check of the prospective adoptive parents must include:

- A screening for child abuse cases
- A State and Federal criminal history records check
- A determination of whether the adoptive home is suitable for the child

**Maryland****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Family Law § §§ 5-3A-31; 5-3A-39**

Reports shall be completed by the child-placing agency.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Family Law §§ 5-3A-39**

The child-placing agency shall make reasonable efforts to compile and make available to a prospective adoptive parent:

- All of the prospective adopted person's medical and mental health records
- A comprehensive medical and mental health history of the prospective adopted person

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Family Law § 5-3A-39**

On request of a prospective adoptive parent, the child-placing agency shall make reasonable efforts to compile a pertinent medical and mental health history of each of the prospective adopted person's parents, if available to the agency, and to make the history available to the prospective adoptive parent.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Family Law § 5-3A-31**

Before a court enters an order for adoption of a child, the child-placing agency shall file a written report on:

- The suitability of the petitioner to adopt the child
- The relationship between the petitioner and child

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**Massachusetts****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Laws Ch. 210, § 5A**

A written report shall be prepared by:

- The Department of Social Services
- A charitable corporation, as assigned by the court when the department is unable to complete the report

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Laws Ch. 210, § 5A**

The report shall include:

- The conditions and antecedents of the child to determine whether the child is a proper subject for adoption
- Verification that the child is not registered with the Federal register for missing children and the central register

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Laws Ch. 210, § 5D**

The agency may release to an adoptive parent nonidentifying information about the adopted person and his birth parents that may include:

- The medical, ethnic, socioeconomic, and educational circumstances of the person
- The circumstances under which the adopted person became available for adoption

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Laws Ch. 210, §§ 3B; 5A**

The report shall include:

- A review of the prospective adoptive parent's criminal record information
- The suitability of the adoptive home and the petitioners as parents for the child

**Michigan****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Comp. Laws § 710.46**

The investigation shall be completed by:

- The department
- A child-placing agency
- An employee or agent of the court

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Comp. Laws § 710.27**

The prospective adoptive parents shall be provided the following information about the child:

- The date, time, and place of birth of the child
- An account of the health and genetic history of the child, including an account of the child's prenatal care and medical condition at birth
- Any subsequent medical, psychological, psychiatric, or dental examination and diagnosis
- Any psychological evaluation done when the child was under the jurisdiction of the court
- Any neglect or physical, sexual, or emotional abuse suffered by the child
- A record of any immunizations and health care the child received while in foster care
- The child's racial, ethnic, and religious background
- An account of the child's past and existing relationship with any relative, foster parent, or other individual or facility with whom the child has lived or visited on a regular basis
- The child's enrollment and performance in school, results of educational testing, and any special educational needs
- A description of the child and the child's family of origin, including the age and sex of siblings of the child
- Any information necessary to determine the child's eligibility for State or Federal benefits

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Comp. Laws § 710.27**

The prospective adoptive parents shall be provided with the following information about the child's birth family:

- An account of the health and genetic history of the child's birth parents and other members of the child's family, including any known hereditary condition or disease
- The health of each parent at the child's birth
- Any drug or medication taken by the child's mother during pregnancy
- A summary of any medical, psychological, or psychiatric evaluation of each parent at the time of placement
- If a parent is deceased, the cause of and the age at death
- A general description of the child's parents, including the age of the child's parents at the time of termination of parental rights, and the length of time the parents had been married at the time of placement
- The levels of educational, occupational, professional, athletic, or artistic achievement of the child's family
- Hobbies, special interests, and school activities of the child's family

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Comp. Laws § 710.23f**

An assessment of the prospective adoptive parent shall contain the following information:

- Age, nationality, race or ethnicity, and any religious preference
- Marital and family status and history, including the presence of other children or adults in the household
- Physical and mental health, including any history of substance abuse
- Educational and employment history and any special skills and interests
- The current financial condition of the individual
- Whether the individual has ever been the respondent in a domestic violence proceeding or a proceeding concerning child abuse or neglect, and the outcome of the proceeding
- Whether the individual has ever been convicted of a crime
- The suitability of the individual as an adoptive parent, including the quality of the environment in the home and the functioning of other children in the household
- The individual's familial, social, psychological, or financial circumstances that may be relevant to a determination of suitability
- The results of a State and Federal criminal records check

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**Minnesota****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 259.41**

A study of the prospective adoptive home shall be completed by a licensed child-placing agency.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 259.53**

The report about the child shall include:

- A medical and social history
- The health and well-being of the child in the prospective adoptive parents' home
- The level of incorporation by the child into the prospective adoptive parents' home, extended family, and community
- The level of inclusion of the child's previous history into the prospective adoptive home, such as cultural or ethnic practices, or contact with former foster parents or birth relatives

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 259.43**

The birth parent or an agency shall provide a prospective adoptive parent with a detailed social and medical history of the birth families.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 259.41**

At minimum, the study of the prospective adoptive parents must include:

- A criminal background check
- A check for substantiated child maltreatment or domestic violence
- Medical and social history
- An assessment of the parents' current health
- An assessment of parenting skills
- An assessment of the parents' ability to provide adequate financial support for the child
- An assessment of the parent's level of knowledge of adoption issues

**Mississippi****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Code § 93-17-11**

An investigation of the proposed adoption may be made by any person, officer, or home as the court designates.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Code § 93-17-3**

The following information about the child may be provided:

- A doctor's certificate showing mental and physical condition of the child
- A sworn statement of all property owned by child
- Whether the child is a proper subject for adoption
- The medical and social history of the child, including genetically inheritable diseases or illnesses, and any other relevant medical, social, and genetic information

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Code §§ 93-17-205; 93-11-206**

The adoptive parents may access nonidentifying information about the child's birth family from the centralized adoption records file. Available information may include:

- The medical and social history of the birth parents, including information regarding genetically inheritable diseases or illnesses and any similar information furnished by the birth parents about the adopted person's grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers, and sisters
- A report of any medical examination that either birth parent had within 1 year before the date of the petition for adoption, if available
- A report describing the adopted person's prenatal care and medical condition at birth, if available

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Code § 93-17-11**

The report on the prospective adoptive parents shall address:

- Whether the petitioners are suitable parents for the child
- Whether the proposed adoption will be in the child's best interest
- Any other facts or circumstances that may be relevant to the proposed adoption

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**Missouri****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 453.070**

An assessment shall be made by:

- The Division of Family Services
- A juvenile court officer
- A licensed child-placing agency
- A licensed social worker
- Another suitable person appointed by the court

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 453.070**

The assessment shall determine whether the child:

- Is suitable for adoption by the petitioner
- Is a potential subsidy recipient

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents**

This issue is not addressed in the statutes reviewed.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 453.070**

The assessment shall include:

- The condition of the petitioner's home
- The petitioner's education level
- The petitioner's financial, medical, marital, and psychological status
- A criminal background check
- A determination of whether the petitioner is suitable as a parent for the child

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**Montana****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Code §§ 42-3-101; 42-3-202**

In any adoption, information about the birth family shall be provided by:

- A birth parent
- The department
- An agency

In an agency adoption, the prospective adoptive parent must obtain a preplacement evaluation from:

- The department
- A licensed social worker
- A licensed child-placing agency

In a direct parental placement adoption, the preplacement evaluation of the adoptive parent must be conducted by either a licensed social worker or a licensed child-placing agency.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Code § 42-3-101**

The information provided to the adoptive parent shall include:

- The social and medical histories of the birth families
- Any tribal affiliation, if applicable

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Code § 42-3-101**

The information provided to the adoptive parent shall include:

- The social and medical histories of the birth families
- Any tribal affiliation, if applicable

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Code §§ 43-3-203, 42-2-204**

The preplacement evaluation report must contain the following information, if available:

- The age and date of birth, nationality, racial or ethnic background, and any religious affiliation
- Medical and social history
- Current physical and mental health
- Any history of abuse of alcohol or drugs
- Marital status and family history
- Educational and employment history and any special skills
- Property and income
- An assessment of potential parenting skills
- An assessment of ability to provide adequate financial support for a child
- An assessment of the level of knowledge and awareness of adoption issues
- Whether the individual has been charged with or convicted of domestic violence or has been involved in a substantiated charge of child abuse or neglect or elder abuse or neglect and the disposition of the charges
- Whether the individual is subject to a court order restricting the individual's right to custody or visitation with a child
- Whether the individual has been convicted of a crime other than a minor traffic violation
- A check of the youth court records of any person living in the prospective home
- The quality of the environment in the individual's home and the functioning of other children in the individual's household
- Any other fact or circumstance that may be relevant in determining whether the individual is suited to be an adoptive parent

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**Nebraska****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 43-107**

An adoption home study shall be completed by:

- A licensed child-placing agency
- The Department of Health and Human Services

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 43-107**

A complete medical history of the child shall be included in the adoption report.

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 43-107**

The adoption report shall include a medical history of both birth parents and their biological families, if available.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 43-107**

The adoption home study shall include:

- A determination of the suitability of the prospective adoptive home
- A national criminal history check
- A central register check for any history of child abuse

**Nevada****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Rev. Stat. §§ 127.120; 127.152**

Investigations and reports shall be completed by:

- The child welfare services agency
- A licensed child-placing agency

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Rev. Stat. §§ 127.120; 127.152**

The adoptive parents shall be given a report on the child to be adopted that shall include the following:

- The child's medical records
- Sociological and medical history
- Any behavioral, emotional, or psychological problems the child may have
- Any subsidies, assistance, or other services that may be available if it is determined that the child has special needs
- The current condition of the child
- A determination of Indian heritage

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 127.152**

The report to the adoptive parents shall include any available nonidentifying information about the birth parents' medical and sociological history.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. §§ 127.120; 127.281; 127.2805**

The investigation of the adoptive parents shall include:

- A determination of the suitability of the adoptive parents' home
- Medical, mental, moral, and financial background
- A State and Federal criminal background check

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**New Hampshire****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 170-B:18**

An assessment of the adoptive parent shall be made by:

- The Department of Health and Human Services
- A licensed child-placing agency

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 170-B:9**

Any parent surrendering parental rights shall file with the court information on the age and medical and personal backgrounds of the birth parents and child. Such personal information may include but not be limited to ethnic and religious background, as is reasonably known.

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 170-B:9**

Any parent surrendering parental rights shall file with the court information on the age and medical and personal backgrounds of the birth parents and child. Such personal information may include but not be limited to ethnic and religious background, as is reasonably known.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 170-B:18(I), (VI)**

In the adoption of a related minor child or an adoption of a minor child through an agency, an assessment shall be made to determine:

- The suitability of the adoptive home for the child
- Whether the proposed adoption is in the best interest of the child
- Whether the petitioner will be able to give the child a proper home and education

If an assessment has not been made, the court shall require a background check. The background check will include:

- A State criminal records check
- A search of the abuse and neglect registry
- If the petitioner has lived in another State, a search of that State's abuse and neglect registry

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**New Jersey****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 9:3-41.1; 9:3-54.2**

An adoption study shall be conducted by an approved agency.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 9:3-41.1**

A report on the prospective adopted person shall include:

- Developmental and medical history
- The child's personality and temperament

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 9:3-41.1**

A report on the birth parents shall provide nonidentifying information about:

- Medical history, including hereditary conditions or diseases
- Any drugs and medications taken during pregnancy
- Any known factor that may influence the current or future health of the adopted person

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 9:3-54.2**

A home study on the prospective adoptive parents shall include:

- A determination of the suitability of the adoptive home
- A State and Federal criminal background check on each parent and any adult residing in the home
- A check for any history of child abuse by the prospective adoptive parent and any household member over age 18

**New Mexico****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 32A-5-14**

Investigations and studies shall be conducted by

- The Department of Children, Youth, and Families
- An agency
- Investigators approved by the department

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 32A-5-3; 32A-5-14**

All available nonidentifying information about the adopted child must be disclosed, including:

- Health, psychological, medical, hospital, medication, and genetic history
- Social and placement history
- A physical description
- Education
- A report of a medical examination performed within 1 year of the adoptive placement

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 32A-5-3**

The preplacement study shall include an evaluation of the child's birth parents.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 32A-5-14; 32A-5-14.1**

A preplacement evaluation of the prospective adoptive parents shall include:

- A medical certificate assessing the petitioners' ability to care for the child
- A statement of their capacity and readiness for parenthood
- Verification of employment, financial resources, and marital status
- Emotional and physical health
- The petitioners' ability to shelter, feed, clothe, and educate the child
- A national criminal records check on the prospective adoptive parents and other adults residing in the home

**New York****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Dom. Rel. Law §§ 112; 116**

An investigation shall be conducted by a disinterested person, as approved by the court, that may include:

- The probation service of the family court
- A licensed master social worker
- A licensed clinical social worker
- An authorized agency specifically designated by the court to conduct preplacement investigations

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Dom. Rel. Law § 112**

The report on the adoptive child shall provide:

- The first name and date and place of birth of the adoptive child, as nearly can be ascertained
- The family status and history of the child
- The physical and mental health of the child
- The religious faith of the adoptive child and his or her parents, if known

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Dom. Rel. Law § 112**

Information about the status of the birth parents at the time of the adoptive child's birth shall be provided and may include:

- The heritage of the parents, including nationality, ethnic background, and race
- The number of years of school completed by the parents
- General physical appearance of the parents, including height, weight, and color of hair, eyes, and skin
- The occupation of the parents
- Health and medical history of the parents, including all available information on conditions or diseases believed to be hereditary
- Any drugs or medication taken during the pregnancy by the child's mother
- Any other information that may be a factor influencing the child's present or future health
- Talents, hobbies, and special interests of the parents
- The names and current addresses of the birth parents, if known

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Dom. Rel. Law §§ 112; 116**

The investigation report on the adoptive parents shall include the following information:

- The marital and family status and history
- The religious faith
- The physical and mental health of the adoptive parents
- The parents' occupation and approximate income
- The property owned by the adoptive parents
- The compensation paid or agreed upon with respect to the placement of the child for adoption
- Whether either adoptive parent has ever been respondent in any proceeding concerning allegedly abused, neglected, abandoned, or delinquent children
- Any other facts relating to the familial, social, religious, emotional, and financial circumstances of the adoptive parents that may be relevant

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**North Carolina****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Gen. Stat. §§ 48-3-205; 48-3-302**

The agency or individual placing the child shall prepare a report on the child's background for the prospective adoptive parents.

A preplacement assessment of the prospective adoptive parents shall be conducted by an authorized agency.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Gen. Stat. § 48-3-205**

The report on the child shall include:

- The child's date of birth
- The child's weight at birth
- Any information relevant to the decision to adopt or the minor's well-being
- The mental, genetic, physical, and emotional health of the child
- Any prenatal and postnatal care received by the child
- Any history of physical, emotional, or sexual abuse

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Gen. Stat. § 48-3-205**

The report on the birth parents shall include:

- The age of the parents at the time of the birth of the child
- The heritage of the parents, including nationality, ethnic background, and race
- The educational level attained
- General physical appearance
- The health status of the parents
- The medical, mental, and genetic history of the birth parents and their family members
- Any history of physical, emotional, or sexual abuse

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Gen. Stat. §§ 48-3-303; 48-2-502**

The preplacement assessment of the prospective adoptive parents shall report on the following:

- Age and date of birth, nationality, race, or ethnicity, and any religious preference
- Marital and family status and history, including the presence of any children born to or adopted by the individual and any other children in the household
- Physical and mental health, including any addiction to alcohol or drugs
- Educational and employment history and any special skills
- Property and income, and current financial information
- Whether the individual has ever been a respondent in a domestic violence proceeding or a proceeding concerning a minor who was allegedly abused, dependent, neglected, abandoned, or delinquent, and the outcome of the proceeding
- Whether the individual has ever been convicted of a crime other than a minor traffic violation
- Any other fact or circumstance that may be relevant to a determination of the individual's suitability to be an adoptive parent, including the quality of the environment in the home and the functioning of any children in the household
- A criminal history investigation of the parents and all individuals age 18 or older who reside in the prospective adoptive home

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**North Dakota****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Cent. Code § 14-15-11**

An investigation must be conducted by a licensed child-placing agency.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Cent. Code §§ 14-15-11; 14-15.1-04**

The investigation report must include:

- The conditions and antecedents of the child
- A review of the child's history
- Whether the adoption is in the child's best interest
- The medical and developmental history of the child

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Cent. Code § 14-15.1-04**

The investigation report must include:

- The medical and social history of the birth parents
- An assessment of the birth parent's understanding and acceptance of the adoption

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Cent. Code §§ 14-15-11; 14-15.1-04**

The investigation report must include:

- The suitability of the adoptive home for the child
- The results of a criminal background check
- An assessment of the prospective adoptive parents' emotional maturity, finances, health, and relationships
- Any other relevant factors that reflect on the prospective adoptive parents' ability to care for the child

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**Northern Mariana Islands****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Commonwealth Code Tit. 8, § 1410**

If the court so orders, an investigation, or home study, shall be made by:

- The Division of Youth Services or its designee
- Any qualified person or agency designated by court

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Commonwealth Code Tit. 8, §§ 1408; 1410**

The adoption petition shall state:

- The date and place of the child's birth, if known
- A description and estimate of value of any property of the person to be adopted

A home study shall determine:

- The conditions and antecedents of the child
- Whether the adoption is in the child's best interest

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents**

This issue is not addressed in the statutes reviewed.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Commonwealth Code Tit. 8, §§ 1408; 1410**

The adoption petition shall state:

- The name, age, place, and duration of residence of the petitioner
- The marital status of the petitioner
- Whether the petitioner has the resources to provide for the care of the child

The home study shall determine whether the adoptive home is suitable for the child.

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**Ohio****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Rev. Code §§ 3107.09; 3107.031; 3107.014**

An assessor shall complete the medical and social history of the birth family and the home study of the prospective adoptive parent. An assessor may be any of the following:

- An individual in the employ of a court, public children services agency, private child-placing agency, or private noncustodial agency
- A professional counselor, social worker, or marriage and family therapist
- A psychologist
- A civil service employee
- A former employee of a public children services agency who, while employed, conducted the duties of an assessor

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Rev. Code § 3107.12**

An assessment of the child shall include all of the following:

- The adjustment of the child to the adoptive placement
- The present and anticipated needs of the child
- The child's medical and social history
- The physical, mental, and developmental condition of the child
- If known, the child's birth family background, including identifying information about the birth or other legal parents
- The reasons for the child's placement for adoption
- The child's attitude toward the proposed adoption, if the child's age makes this feasible
- If the child is an Indian child, whether the placement complies with the Indian Child Welfare Act
- If known, the child's psychological background, including prior abuse of the child and behavioral problems of the child

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Rev. Code §§ 3107.12; 3107.09**

A social history of the birth parents shall include:

- Age
- Ethnic, racial, religious, marital, and physical characteristics
- Educational, cultural, talent and hobby, and work experience background

A medical history of the birth parents shall identify:

- Major diseases, malformations, allergies, or ear or eye defects
- Major conditions or major health problems that are or may be congenital or familial
- Other social and medical information relative to the birth parents and to the child's other ancestors

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Rev. Code §§ 3107.031; 3107.032**

The home study shall include:

- An assessment of the prospective adoptive parents' suitability to adopt the child
- Other information and documents as per department regulation

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**Oklahoma****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Stat. Tit. 10, §§ 7504-1.1; 7505-5.4**

A medical and social history report of the child may be compiled by the department or a child-placing agency. Home studies must be conducted and the reports prepared only by the following persons or agencies:

- The agency having custody or legal guardianship of the child
- The Department of Human Services
- A licensed child-placing agency
- A person designated by the court who meets one of the following qualifications:
  - » A master's degree in social work and 1 year of experience in children's services
  - » A member of the Academy of Certified Social Workers and 1 year of experience in children's services
  - » A master's degree in a behavioral or social science and 2 years' experience in children's services
  - » A doctorate in a behavioral or social science and one 1 year of experience in children's services
  - » A member of the clergy with 2 years of experience in family counseling
- A person who is supervised by a person described above, and who has either a bachelor's degree in social work, or a bachelor's degree in behavioral or social science and 1 year of experience in children's or family services

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Stat. Tit. 10, § 7504-1.1**

The medical and social history report on the child shall contain:

- A copy of all medical, dental, and psychological records
- A copy of all educational records of the child
- A current medical and psychological history
- Any prenatal, neonatal, medical, dental, psychiatric or psychological diagnoses, examinations, or reports
- Any diseases, illnesses, accidents, allergies, and congenital or birth defects
- A record of any immunization and other health care received
- The child's developmental history
- Any behavioral problems
- Any physical, sexual, or emotional abuse suffered by the child
- Any other information necessary to determine the child's eligibility for State or Federal benefits
- The circumstances leading to the adoption
- The heritage of the child, including minor's nationality, ethnic background, tribal affiliation, if any, and race
- Whether the child has a criminal conviction or delinquency adjudication

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. Tit. 10, § 7504-1.1**

The report on the birth family shall include:

- The age of the birth parents, other children of either birth parent, and the birth grandparents at the time of the adoption
- The gender of the other children of either birth parent
- The medical and psychological history of the birth parents and relatives
- The gynecologic and obstetric history of the birth mother and her health during pregnancy
- The use of drugs, medication, or alcohol by the birth father or mother at the time of conception and by the mother during pregnancy
- The exposure of the mother to toxic substances, fumes, or occupational hazards during pregnancy
- Whether the birth parents are related to each other and to what degree
- Any history of venereal disease
- Physical characteristics of birth family members, including height, weight, color of eyes, hair, and skin
- Potentially inheritable genetic, psychological, or physical disorders
- Any addiction or predisposition to addiction to drugs or alcohol
- Psychological history
- The occupation of the birth parents and grandparents
- Talents, hobbies, and special interests
- Educational and vocational achievement and any noteworthy accomplishments
- A criminal conviction, judicial order terminating parental rights, or other proceeding in which a birth parent was alleged to have abused, neglected, abandoned, or otherwise mistreated the child to be adopted, a sibling, or the other birth parent

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. Tit. 10, § 7505-5.3**

A home study must include the following:

- A determination of whether the home is suitable for the child
- Verification that the home is a healthy, safe environment in which to raise a child
- Verification of marital status, employment, income, access to medical care, physical health, and history
- A review of a criminal background check and a child abuse registry check for the adoptive parents and all household members age 18 or older
- Verification of current physical health

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**Oregon****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 109.304**

The home study and placement report is conducted by:

- The Department of Human Services
- A licensed adoption agency

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Rev. Stat. §§ 109.304; 109.342**

The report on the child shall include:

- Social and genetic history
- Medical history from birth to the time of placement
- Any diseases, disabilities, or birth defects
- Records of any medical examinations

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. § 109.342**

The report on the birth parents shall include:

- Medical history
- Physical characteristics at the time of the child's birth, including height, weight, and color of eyes, hair, and skin
- Gynecologic and obstetric history of the birth mother
- Any history of potentially inheritable genetic traits
- Any other useful or unusual information the birth parents are willing to provide

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Rev. Stat. §§ 109.304; 109.309**

The home study of the prospective adoptive parent shall determine

- Whether the individual is suitable as an adoptive parent
- Whether the home meets the minimum standards set forth in the department's administrative rules

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**Pennsylvania****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Cons. Stat. Tit. 23 §§ 2533; 2535**

The intermediary who arranged the adoption shall prepare a report on the birth family. An investigation of the adoption shall be made by:

- A public or voluntary childcare agency
- The agency that placed the child
- A person designated by the court

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Cons. Stat. Tit. 23 §§ 2533; 2535**

The report on the child shall include:

- The physical, mental, and emotional needs of the child
- The child's age, date and place of birth, sex, and racial background
- The child's religious background
- A description and value of any property owned by the child

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Cons. Stat. Tit. 23 § 2533**

The report on the birth parents shall include:

- Age and marital status of the parents when the child was born and during the year prior to birth
- Racial background and religious affiliation
- The parents' residence if their parental rights have not yet been terminated
- Medical history

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Cons. Stat. Tit. 23 §§ 2530; 2535**

The home study and adoption investigation shall include:

- The suitability of the placement
- The adopting parents' age and sex
- An assessment of the home environment and parenting skills
- Physical and mental health
- Ethnic and racial background
- Social, cultural, and religious background
- Facilities and resources
- Ability to manage resources

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**Puerto Rico****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Laws Tit. 32, § 2699e**

An expert social study shall be prepared by:

- The Department of the Family
- A social worker or other expert appointed by the court

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Laws Tit. 32, § 2699e**

The expert social study shall examine:

- The child's social background
- Whether the adoption is in the child's best interest

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Laws Tit. 32, § 2699e**

The expert social study shall examine the birth parents' social background.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Laws Tit. 32, §§ 2996b; 2699e**

The expert social study shall examine the prospective adoptive parents' social background. The adoption petition shall include the personal circumstances of the adopting parent, including:

- His or her Social Security number
- Address and telephone number
- The name and address of the parent's employer
- Sources of income, pensions, or earnings
- Circumstances attesting to his or her moral character and financial solvency
- Criminal record certificate

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**Rhode Island****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Gen. Laws §§ 15-7-2.1; 15-7-11**

A preadoption report on the birth family and a home study on the adopting parents may be completed by:

- The Department of Children, Youth, and Families Services
- A licensed child-placing agency

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Gen. Laws § 15-7-2.1**

The report on the child shall include:

- Current medical, dental, developmental, and psychological history
- The child's prenatal care, medical condition at birth, and developmental milestones
- Any physical, sexual, or emotional abuse or neglect suffered by the child
- Any developmental assessment and a record of any immunizations and health care received while the child was in foster or other care
- The child's enrollment and performance in school and any special educational needs
- The results of any genetic testing
- The results if the child has been tested for HIV
- Any information necessary to determine the child's eligibility for State or Federal benefits

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Gen. Laws § 15-7-2.1**

The report on the birth parents shall include:

- Age, race, religion, ethnicity, and general physical appearance
- The educational levels of the birth parents, including any known diagnosed learning disabilities
- The relationship between the birth parents
- The age and sex of any other children born to the birth parents
- If a parent is deceased, the cause of and the age at death
- Nonidentifying medical, substance abuse, and mental health histories of the birth parents and siblings
- Any drugs and medications taken by the child's birth mother during pregnancy
- Any known allergies, hereditary, genetic, or metabolic diseases

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Gen. Laws § 15-7-11**

The following information shall be included in the home study:

- Identifying information on all household members, including minor children and the current needs of each child
- The prospective adoptive parent's motivation and reasons for the adoption
- Current background information on the prospective adoptive parents
- The childcare experience and parenting philosophy of the prospective adoptive parents
- Information regarding past and present marriage and/or partnership relationships
- Current medical and psychological conditions, including addiction to drugs or alcohol, that may be seriously detrimental to the health and welfare of children
- A description of the home and local community
- Any health and safety concerns regarding the home
- The finances and employment of the prospective adoptive parents
- Results of background checks with the child abuse registry and State and Federal criminal records

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**South Carolina****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Laws § 20-7-1750**

Reports connected to the adoption may be completed by any person certified by the Department of Social Services.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Laws § 20-7-1740**

A report on the child shall include:

- Race, sex, and age
- A determination of whether the child is a suitable child for adoption by the prospective adoptive parent
- Medical and developmental history
- The reason for the child's placement away from the birth parents
- Whether the child, if of an appropriate age and mental capacity, desires to be adopted
- Whether adoption by the petitioner is in the best interests of the child

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Laws § 20-7-1740**

A background information investigation may not disclose the identity of the birth parents and shall provide the following:

- A medical history of the birth family, including parents, siblings, and other family members
- Ages, sex, and race of the birth family
- Any known genetic, psychological, metabolic, or familial disorders

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Laws § 20-7-1740**

An investigation of the adoptive parent shall determine:

- Whether the home of the prospective adoptive parent is a suitable one for the placement of a child
- How the emotional maturity, finances, health, relationships, and any other relevant characteristics of the prospective adoptive parent affect the parent's ability to accept, care, and provide a child with an adequate environment as the child matures
- Whether the prospective adoptive parent has ever been involved in any proceeding concerning allegedly neglected, abandoned, abused, or delinquent children
- Whether the prospective adoptive parent has completed a course or counseling in preparation for adoption

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**South Dakota****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 25-6-9.1**

An investigation shall be conducted by:

- A licensed child-placing agency
- The Department of Social Services
- A certified social worker

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 25-6-11; 25-6-13**

An investigation and report shall include:

- Whether the child is suitable for adoption
- Whether the best interests of the child will be promoted by the adoption
- The full adoptive name, date of birth, sex, race, and place of birth of the adopted child

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 25-6-15.2**

Nonidentifying information about the birth parents shall be made available to the adoptive parent, including:

- The age of the birth parents at the time of the birth of the child
- The heritage of the birth parents, including nationality, ethnic background, and race
- The education completed by the birth parents at the time of the birth of the child
- The general physical appearance of the birth parents at the time of the birth of the child, including height, weight, color of hair, eyes, skin, and other information of a similar nature
- Talents, hobbies, and special interests
- The existence of any other children born to either birth parent before the birth of the child
- The religion of the birth parents
- The occupation of the birth parents in general terms
- The health history of the birth parents and blood relatives
- The relationship between the birth parents

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 25-6-9.1; 25-6-11; 25-6-13**

The home study must include a criminal record check and a central registry check. An investigation and report shall include:

- Whether the proposed adoption is in a suitable home for the child
- Whether the petitioning parents are financially able and morally fit to have the care and training of the child
- The full name, date of birth, citizenship, residence, color or race, birthplace, and occupation of both adoptive parents

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**Tennessee****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Code § 36-1-116**

A home study may be conducted by:

- A licensed child-placing agency
- A social worker
- The Department of Children Services, for indigent petitioners

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Code §§ 36-1-116; 36-1-133**

Available information about the adopted child may include:

- The date and time of the birth of the child and the child's weight and other physical characteristics at birth
- Available health history of the child, including any psychological or psychiatric information that could have any substantial effect on the adopted person's mental or physical health
- The value of any personal and real property owned by the child or in which the child may have some legal or equitable interest
- Whether it is in the best interest of the child for the adoption to occur

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Code § 36-1-133**

Nonidentifying information about the birth parents may be accessed, including:

- The age of the birth relatives at the time of the child's birth
- The nationality, ethnic background, race, and religious preference of the birth relatives
- The educational level, general occupation, and any talents or hobbies of the birth relatives
- A general physical description, including height, weight, color of hair, color of eyes, complexion, and other similar information
- Whether the birth parent had any other children, and if so, any available nonidentifying information about such children
- Available health history of the adopted person's birth relatives, including any psychological or psychiatric information that could have any substantial effect on the adopted person's mental or physical health

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Code § 36-1-116**

A home study of the prospective adoptive parents shall address:

- The suitability of their home and themselves as adoptive parents
- Whether the petitioners are fit persons to have the care and custody of the child
- Whether the petitioners are financially able to provide for the child

**Texas****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Family Code §§ 107.0051; 162.005**

A social study of the prospective adoptive parents may be made by:

- A private entity
- A person appointed by the court
- A State agency, including the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services

A report on the child may be prepared by:

- The Department of Protective and Regulatory Services
- A licensed child-placing agency
- The child's parent or guardian

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Family Code §§ 162.005; 162.007**

The report on the child shall include:

- The child's health status at the time of placement
- Birth, neonatal, and other medical, psychological, and dental history
- The results of any examinations
- Immunization record
- Social history, including any relationships with the birth family
- Educational history
- Genetic history
- Any history of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse
- Any information necessary to determine whether the child is eligible for State or Federal financial, medical, or other assistance

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Family Code § 162.007**

The report on the child shall include information about the child's birth family, including:

- Descriptions of the birth parents and other family members
- Health and medical history, including any genetic diseases or disorders
- The health status of the parents at the time of placement
- If a parent is deceased, the cause of death and age at death
- Physical descriptions, including height, weight, and eye and hair color
- Nationality and ethnic background
- Levels of education and professional achievement
- Religious background, if any
- Psychological, psychiatric, and social evaluations
- Any criminal record

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Family Code §§ 107.0511; 162.0085**

A social study shall be conducted that meets the requirements set by the Board of Protective and Regulatory Services.

The adoption petitioner shall be required to obtain his or her own criminal history record information.

## Utah

### Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report

**Citation: Ann. Code § 78-30-14**

The division, or a person appointed by the division, shall prepare an evaluation of the adoptive parents.

### Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted

**Citation: Ann. Code §§ 78-30-14; 78-30-16; 78-30-17**

The written report on the child shall include:

- The physical and mental condition of the child, so far as that may be determined
- Any other facts and circumstances pertaining to the child and the child's welfare
- The child's health history, including a comprehensive report of the child's health status at the time of placement for adoption, and his or her medical history, including neonatal, psychological, physiological, and medical care history

### Contents of Report About Birth Parents

**Citation: Ann. Code §§ 78-30-14; 78-30-16; 78-30-17**

The written report on the birth family shall include:

- Why the birth parents, if living, desire to be released from the care, support, and guardianship of the child
- Whether the birth parents have abandoned the child or are morally unfit for custody
- A genetic and social history that means a comprehensive report, when obtainable, on the child's birth parents, aunts, uncles, and grandparents, that contains the following information:
  - » Medical history
  - » Health status
  - » Cause of and age at death
  - » Height, weight, eye, and hair color
  - » Ethnic origins
  - » Where appropriate, levels of education and professional achievement
  - » Religion, if any

### Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents

**Citation: Ann. Code §§ 78-30-3.5; 78-30-14**

The adoptive evaluation shall include:

- Criminal history record information regarding each prospective adoptive parent and any other adult living in the prospective home
- Whether there are any reports and investigation of child abuse, neglect, and dependency, with respect to each prospective adoptive parent and any other adult living in the prospective home
- An evaluation conducted by an expert in family relations
- Whether the proposed adoptive parent or parents are financially able and morally fit to have the care, supervision, and training of the child

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## Virgin Islands

### Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report

**Citation: Ann. Code Tit. 16, § 145**

The Commissioner of Public Welfare shall submit a report and recommendation to the court.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted**

This issue is not addressed in the statutes reviewed.

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents**

This issue is not addressed in the statutes reviewed.

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents**

**Citation: Ann. Code Tit. 16, § 145**

The report must demonstrate that the adoptive parent is of sufficient ability and is a proper person to bring up the child and furnish suitable education and nurture to the child.

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**Virginia****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report**

**Citation: Ann. Code § 63.2-1208**

An investigation and report shall be made by:

- A child-placing agency assigned by the court
- The local department of social services, if no agency was retained to provide investigation services

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted**

**Citation: Ann. Code § 63.2-1208**

The report on the child shall include:

- The child's physical and mental condition
- The circumstances under which the child came to be placed with the adoptive family
- The suitability of the child for the prospective parents

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents**

**Citation: Ann. Code § 63.2-1208**

**The report on the birth parents shall include:**

- The reasons for placing the child for adoption
- Whether the parents have abandoned the child or are morally unfit to have custody
- Relevant physical and mental history, if known

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents**

**Citation: Ann. Code § 63.2-1208**

The report on the adoptive parent shall include:

- Financial ability
- Moral suitability
- Whether the parent is in satisfactory health and mental condition to care for the adopted person

**Washington****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Rev. Code §§ 26.33.190; 26.33.350**

A preplacement report on the prospective adoptive parents may be prepared by:

- A child-placing agency
- The department
- An individual approved by the court
- A court employee

Any person, agency, or entity who places a child for adoption shall provide health and social information about the birth family to the adoptive parents.

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Rev. Code §§ 26.33.350; 26.33.380**

The information about the child shall include:

- A complete medical history
- The results of a physical exam with lab tests and x-rays
- Family background
- A chronological history of the circumstances surrounding the adoptive placement
- Psychiatric and/or psychological reports
- Court reports related to dependency or custody
- School reports

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Rev. Code §§ 26.33.350; 26.33.380**

The information about the birth parents shall include:

- Medical history
- Any available mental or physical health history
- Family background
- Social history
- A chronological history of the circumstances surrounding the adoptive placement

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Rev. Code § 26.33.190**

The preplacement report shall include an investigation of the adoptive parents that addresses:

- The home environment
- Family life
- The parents' health
- The parents' facilities and resources
- Their fitness as parents
- Their understanding of the issues associated with adoption
- The results of a national and State criminal background check

## West Virginia

### Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report

**Citation: Ann. Code §§ 48-22-701; 48-23-601**

A report on the adopting parents may be prepared by any person or agency approved by the court.

Information about the birth family shall be compiled by:

- The licensed adoption agency
- The person or entity that arranged the adoption

### Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted

**Citation: Ann. Code §§ 48-22-701; 48-23-601**

The information about the child shall include:

- A detailed written health history
- Genetic and social history
- A description of the adjustment of the child to the adoption

### Contents of Report About Birth Parents

**Citation: Ann. Code § 48-23-601**

The information on the birth parents shall include:

- Nonidentifying written health history
- Genetic and social history of the birth parents and family

### Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents

**Citation: Ann. Code § 48-22-701**

The report on the prospective adoptive parents shall include:

- An assessment of the suitability of the parents' home
- A description of family members
- Medical and employment histories
- A description of the home and surroundings
- Personal references
- Other information deemed necessary by the court
- A criminal background investigation

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## Wisconsin

### Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report

**Citation: Ann. Stat. § 48.88**

A child-placing agency shall conduct an investigation of the prospective adoptive parents.

### Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted

**Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 48.93; 48.425**

Information about the child shall include:

- Medical and genetic information
- The social history of the child
- Details of the child's prenatal care and condition at birth
- Whether the child is a proper subject for adoption

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 48.93; 48.425**

Information about the birth parents shall include:

- Medical and genetic history of the parents and birth grandparents, aunts, uncles, and siblings
- A report of any medical examinations
- Nonidentifying social history

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. § 48.88**

The investigation of the adoptive parents shall determine whether the adoptive placement is suitable for the child.

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**Wyoming****Agency or Person Gathering Information or Preparing Report****Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 1-22-111; 1-22-116**

A report shall be prepared by:

- The Department of Family Services
- A private licensed agency

**Contents of Report About Person to be Adopted****Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 1-22-111; 1-22-116**

The report on the child shall include:

- Background information
- Medical history, including any hereditary diseases
- Any information that may be a factor influencing the adopted person's present or future health

**Contents of Report About Birth Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 1-22-111; 1-22-116**

The report on the birth parents shall include:

- Medical, social, and psychological background and status
- Information on conditions or disorders believed to be hereditary
- Any drugs or medication taken by the birth mother during pregnancy

**Contents of Report About Adoptive Parents****Citation: Ann. Stat. §§ 1-22-104; 1-22-111**

The report on the prospective adoptive parents shall include:

- Background information
- An assessment of the suitability of the petitioners' home for the child

The prospective adoptive parent shall file an affidavit with the adoption petition that lists:

- Any previous or current diagnosed psychiatric disorders
- All felony convictions of the petitioner within the preceding 10 years
- All misdemeanor convictions of the petitioner within the preceding 5 years
- The current parole or probation status of the petitioner, if any