

List of facilities and institutions

Ministry of Health and Welfare and NCRC

Name	Address	Contact (FAX)	Email / Website
Ministry of health and welfare	13, Doum 4-ro, Sejong Special Autonomic City (Sejong Government Complex 10)	+82-44-202-2118 F +82-44-202-3910	www.mohw.go.kr
National Center for the Rights of the Child (Korea Adoption Services)	6th Floor of G Tower, 71, Sambong-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul	+82-2-6283-0476-7, 0482 (English) +82-2-6283-0483 (French) F +82-2-6283-0498	• familysearch@ncrc.or.kr (English) • familysearch_fr@ncrc.or.kr (French) www.kadoption.or.kr/en/

Adoption Agencies

Name	Address	Contact (FAX)	Email / Website
Eastern Social Welfare Society Inc.	26 Yeonhui-ro, Seodaemun-gu, Seoul	+82-2-3142-5821 F +82-2-324-3985	postadoption@eastern.or.kr www.eastern.or.kr
Holt Children's Services Inc.	2nd floor, 22, Yanghwa-ro 1-gil, Mapo-gu, Seoul	+82-2-331-7015-23 F +82-2-331-7029	pasc@holt.or.kr holtkorea@hotmail.com www.holt.or.kr
Korea Social Service, Inc.	42-49, Samyang-ro 162 ga-gil, Dobong-gu, Seoul	+82-2-908-9191 F +82-2-908-3344	kssinc@kssinc.org www.kssinc.org
Korea Welfare Services Inc. (Social Welfare Services)	21, Nonhyeon-ro, 86-gil, Gangnam-Gu, Seoul	+82-2-567-8891 F +82-2-552-0887	swspas@kws.or.kr www.kws.or.kr

International organizations in cooperation with adoption agencies

Adoption agency	Country	International organizations in cooperation	Website	Remarks
Eastern Social Welfare Society	USA	AAC (Adoption and Family Network, Inc.)	www.aacadoption.com	
		CHLSS(CHSM) Children's Home Society and Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota	www.chlss.org	
		Lifelink (Bensenville Home Society)	www.lcfs.org/ lifelinkchanges	Closed
		Love the Children	-	Closed
		CCS (Catholic Community Services)	www.ccsww.org	
		Dillon International, Inc.	www.dillonadopt.com	
		Dillon Southwest		
		Catholic Charities Hawaii	www.catholiccharitieshawaii.org	Closed
		New Beginnings Family and Children's Services, Inc.	www.new-beginnings.org	
		PARSONS Child and Family Center	www.parsonscenter.org	
Eastern Social Welfare Society	Australia	LSS (Lutheran Social Services)	www.lsswis.org	Closed
		WACAP	www.wacap.org	Closed
		ASIA (Adoption Services Information Agency)	www.chlss.org	Acquired by CHLSS
		ACT (Australian Capital Territory) Child and Youth Protection Services	www.communityservices.act.gov.au	
		NSW (New South Wales) Department of Family and Community Services	www.community.nsw.gov.au	
		QLD (Queensland) Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women	www.csyw.qld.gov.au/ child-family	
		TA (Tasmania) Department of Communities Tasmania	www.dhhs.tas.gov.au	
		VIC (Victoria) Department of Health and Human Services	www.dhs.vic.gov.au	
		WA (Western Australia) Department of Communities	www.dcp.wa.gov.au/ Pages/Home.aspx	
		SA (South Australia) Department for Child Protection	www.childprotection.sa.gov.au/adopt	
NT (Northern Territory) Territory Families	www.nt.gov.au			

USA	Holt International Children's Services	www.holtinternational.org		
	Wide Horizons for Children	www.whfc.org		
	Bethany Christian Services	www.bethany.org		
	Welcome House Social Services of PSBI	www.pearl-s-buck.org	Closed	
	Catholic Charities	www.catholiccharities.org		
	World Association for Children and Parents (WACAP)	www.holtinternational.org		
	Holt Children's Services Inc.(HOLT)	CHSFS (Children's Home Society & Family Services)	www.chlss.org	
		The Family Conservancy	www.thefamilyconservancy.org/	Closed
		Child and Family Service	www.childandfamily.org	Closed
		FCVN (Friends of Children of Various Nations)	www.childrenofnations.com	Closed
Norway		Children of the World	www.verdensbarn.no	
Denmark		DanAdopt	www.danadopt.dk	
France		R.D.S. (Rayon de Soleil)	www.rayondesoleil.net	
Luxemburg		A.I.A.E.(Amicale Internationale d'Aide l'Enfance)	www.aiae.lu	
Korea Social Service, Inc.		USA	Welcome House of Pearl S. Buck International	www.pearlsbuck.org
		Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota	www.chlss.org	
	Love the Children	-	Closed	
	Family Adoption Consultants, Inc.	www.fcsserves.org		
	The Netherlands	Wereldkinderen	www.wereldkinderen.nl	
	Denmark	Danish International Adoption	www.d-i-a.dk	
	Switzerland	Terre des hommes	www.tdh.ch	
	USA	AIAA (Americans for International Aid & Adoption)	www.aiaaadopt.org	Closed
	CHSFS (Children's Home Society and Family Services)	www.chsfs.org		
	FCA (Family & Children's Agency)	www.familyandchildrensagency.org		
Korea Welfare Services Inc. (Social Welfare Services)	Canada	SC (Spence Chapin Services to Families & Children)	www.spence-chapin.org	
	BF (The Barker Adoption Foundation)	www.barkerfoundation.org		
	Catholic Charities	www.catholiccharities.org	Closed	
	EDO (Enfant D'orient et d'Occident)	www.enfantdoriant.org		
	SR (Sunrise Family Services Society)	www.sunriseadoption.com		
	CB (The Children's Bridge)	www.childrensbridge.com		
	Sweden	AC (Adoptionscentrum)	www.adoptionscentrum.se	
	Italy	SRAI (REGIONE PIEMONTE Servizio Regionale per le Adozioni Internazionali)	www.regione.piemonte.it/adoz-internaz	

Korean Embassies(Consulates) where DNA testing is available

Country	Korean Consulates	Contact	Email	Website
USA	Embassy of the Republic of Korea in USA	+1-202-939-5600	generalusa@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/us-en/index.do
	Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in New York	+1-646-674-6000	kcg_ny@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/us-newyork-en/index.do
	Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Los Angeles	+1-213-385-9300	consul-la@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/us-losangeles-en/index.do
	Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Boston	+1-617-641-2830	kcgoston@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/us-boston-ko/index.do
	Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in San Francisco	+1-(415)921-2251	consularsf@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/us-sanfrancisco-en/index.do
	Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Seattle	+1-206-441-1011-4	seattle0404@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/us-seattle-en/index.do

France	Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Chicago	+1-312-822-9485	chicago@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/us-chicago-en/index.do	
	Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Atlanta	+1-404-522-1611-3	atlanta@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/us-atlanta-en/index.do	
	Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Honolulu	+1-808-595-6109	consulatehi@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/us-honolulu-en/index.do	
	Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Houston	+1-713-961-0186	Con-hu@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/us-houston-en/index.do	
	Consular Office of the Republic of Korea in Dallas	+1-972-701-0180	koreadallas@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/us-dallas-en/index.do	
	Consular Office of the Republic of Korea in Anchorage	+1-907-339-7955	anchorage@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/us-anchorage-en/index.do	
	Consulate Agency of the Republic of Korea in Hagatna	+1-(671)647-6488-9	kconsu_lguam@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/us-hagatna-en/index.do	
	France	Embassy of the Republic of Korea in France	+33-(0)1-4753-0101	koremb-fr@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/fr-fr/index.do
	Sweden	Embassy of the Republic of Korea in the Kingdom of Sweden	+46-(0)8-5458-9400	koremb.sweden@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/se-en/index.do
	Denmark	Embassy of the Republic of Korea to Denmark	+45-(0)39-46-0400	korembdk@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/dk-en/index.do
Norway	Embassy of the Republic of Korea to Norway	+47-(0)22-54-7090	kornor@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/no-en/index.do	
	Netherlands	Embassy of the Republic of the Kingdom of the Netherlands	+31-(0)70-740-0200	koreambassynl@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/nl-en/index.do
	Belgium	Embassy of the Republic of Korea to the Kingdom of Belgium	+32-(0)2-675-5777	eukorea@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/be-en/index.do
	Australia	Embassy of the Republic of Korea to the Commonwealth of Australia	+61-(0)2-6270-4100	australia@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/au-en/index.do
	Canada	Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Sydney	+61-(0)2-9210-0200	consyd@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/au-sydney-en/index.do
		Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Melbourne	+61-(0)3-9533-3800	conmel@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/au-melbourne-en/index.do
		Embassy of the Republic of Korea to Canada	+1-613-244-5010	canada@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/ca-en/index.do
		Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Montreal	+1-514-845-2555	montreal@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/ca-montreal-en/index.do
		Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Vancouver	+1-604-681-9581	vancouver@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/ca-vancouver-en/index.do
		Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Toronto	+1-416-920-3809	toronto@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/ca-toronto-en/index.do
Germany		Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Germany	+49-(0)30-260-650	koremb-ge@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/de-de/index.do
		Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Frankfurt	+49-(0)69-956752-0	gk-frankfurt@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/de-frankfurt-de/index.do
		Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Hamburg	+49-(0)40-650-677-600	gkhamburg@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/de-hamburg-de/index.do
		Embassy Branch Office of the Republic of Korea in Bonn	+49-(0)228-943-790	admin-bn@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/de-bonn-de/index.do
	Switzerland	Embassy of the Republic of Korea to the Swiss Confederation	+41-(0)31-356-2444	swiss@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/ch-en/index.do
	Luxemburg	Embassy of the Republic of Korea to the Kingdom of Belgium	+32-(0)2-675-5777	eukorea@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/be-en/index.do
	Italy	Embassy of the Republic of Korea to Italy	+39-(0)6-802461	koremb-it@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/it-it/index.do
	England	Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Milan	+39-(0)2-2906-2641	milano@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/it-milano-it/index.do
		Embassy of the Republic of Korea in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	+44-(0)20-7227-5500	koreambinuk@mofa.go.kr	overseas.mofa.go.kr/gb-en/index.do

FAQ



Q How is the Adoption Information Disclosure service different between adoption agencies and NCRC?

NCRC and adoption agencies have the same process to provide the service. However, as adoption agencies handled the adoption process for adoptees firsthand, they have the original adoption documents. Therefore, the adoptees who request the information disclosure for the first time or wish to see the original adoption documents should use the service provided by adoption agencies.

NCRC, an agency affiliated by the Ministry of Health and Welfare, have adoption information collected from now defunct adoption agencies, and can provide the Adoption Information Disclosure service if adoptees wish to petition as well as functional adoption agency's documents

Q How long does it take to receive the final result of Adoption Information Disclosure Service?

The applicable law states that adoptees shall receive the result within 45 days from the application. However, it may take longer than 45 days as locating birth parents and obtaining their consent to release information can take extra time

Q Can adoptees find their relatives or other family members if the birth parents are deceased or cannot be found?

The Act on Special Cases Concerning Adoption currently allows information disclosure only for birth parents. Therefore only the personal information of birth parents can be searched. There are no legal grounds to search personal information of other relatives or related persons, and etc.

Q Can adoptees find other information about birth parents, such as phone number, etc., in addition to address?

Due to Korea's strengthened personal information protection regulations, it is not possible to check information other than the address of a birth parent registered in the resident registration system.

Q Can adoptees have access to birth parents' personal information on adoption records if birth parents are deceased or cannot be found?

Even if birth parents are deceased or their whereabouts cannot be verified, the information cannot be disclosed as birth parents' consent is not gained.

Q If birth parents are deceased, can adoptees have access to the information such as cause of death and place of burial?

NCRC can only verify whereabouts of birth parents. Such information including cause of death and place of burial is unavailable to disclose.



Tracing Your Origin

Birth family search for adoptees

Adoption Information Disclosure service

What is Adoption Information Disclosure service?


Adoption Information Disclosure is a service which allows adoptees to request and obtain their adoption information from organizations concerned such as National Center for the Rights of the Child (NCRC) or adoption agencies

* Related law : Act on Special Cases Concerning Adoption.

Request eligibility

- A person who has been adopted under the Act on Special Cases Concerning Adoption
- If an adoptee is a minor under the age of 19, he / she must obtain consent from his / her adoptive parents

How to petition

Category	Required documents	Adoptees under the age of 19 (minors)	Download the Application Form
Application form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption Information Disclosure petition, • Copy of ID card (passport, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to required documents, • Adoptive parents' consent Form • Copy of adoptive parents' ID card (passport, etc.) 	

* Scan the QR code using the rear camera.

Submission Visit or send the documents via email or fax to NCRC/adoption agencies.
 • See p.7-8 for contact information of NCRC and adoption agencies.

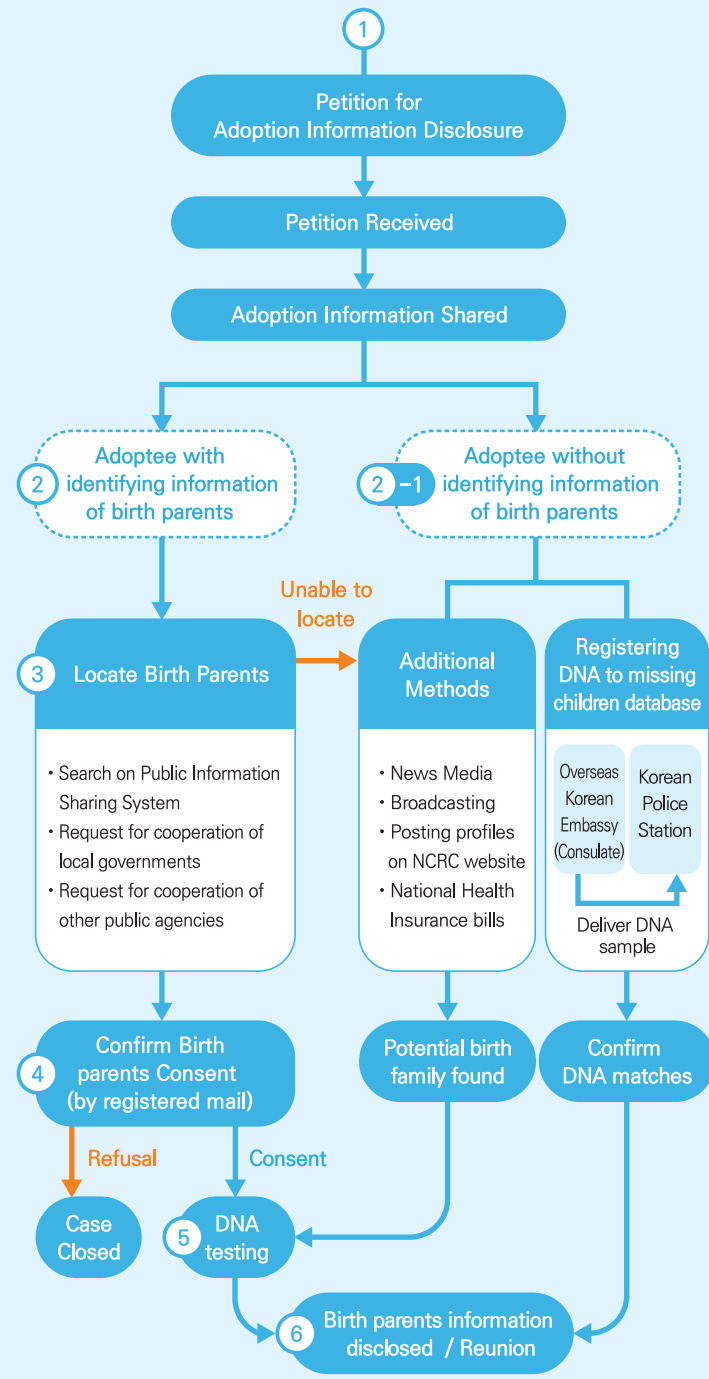
• First-time applicants should submit the documents to adoption agencies first. From the second time onwards, applicants can choose to submit between NCRC or adoption agencies.

• Consult with the NCRC if adoptee does not have information on the adoption agency that facilitated their adoption or if their adoption agency is no longer in business.

Information to be provided

Category	Description	Remarks
Adoption background information	Adoption background information such as adoption date, reason for relinquishment, age of the birth parents at the time of adoption, birth name of adoptee and date of birth, etc	Provided upon request for Adoption Information Disclosure (Information found in records can be provided)
Information of birth parents	Name, date of birth, address and contact of birth parents at the time of adoption	Available only if birth parents consent to the disclosure

Adoption Information Disclosure process flow chart



Adoption Information Disclosure process

① When requested to disclose adoption information, NCRC or an adoption agency provides the adoption background information to the adoptee by sending an email or having a face-to-face meeting, etc.

② If identifying information of birth parent is available on adoption records, the information will be provided to the adoptee after obtaining consent from the birth parents.

②-1. If the birth parent's identification can not be verified, then the adoptee can register their DNA data at a Korean police station or their Korean Embassy(Consulate) overseas. They may also utilize Korean press or media to continue searching for their birth family.
 ※ See p.5-6 for more information about registering DNA data, press and media support.

③ NCRC locates the birth parent of the adoptee to obtain consent for information disclosure.
 ※ When adoption agencies conduct a search, they request for NCRC's assistance to verify birth parent's current address.

1) Search on Public Information Sharing System : When name and resident ID number of birth parent is written on adoption records, birth parent's current address is verified through the Public Information Sharing System.

2) Request for cooperation of local governments : When name, age and address(at the time of relinquishment) of the birth parent is written on adoption records, birth parent's current address is identified with the assist of local governments such as district (gu) offices.

3) Request for cooperation of other public agencies : If the identified address is inaccurate, NCRC inquires their whereabouts to other public agencies.

④ When current address of birth parent is identified, NCRC or an adoption agency sends a registered mail(up to 3 times) to obtain consent for information release from the birth parent.

⑤ When birth parent agrees to disclose his / her information to the adoptee, NCRC or an adoption agency supports DNA testing to confirm the biological relationship and disclose birth parent's information to the adoptee.

When birth parent refuses to give consent or do not respond to the mail, birth parent's information cannot be disclosed.

⑥ When birth parent and adoptee both wishes to meet, NCRC or an adoption agency facilitates letter exchanges and a family reunion while providing interpretation and counseling services.

Registering DNA data

According the Article 11 the Act on the Protection and Support of Missing Children, etc., adoptees who do not have birth family information at the time of adoption, can register their DNA data at a police station in Korea or through Korean Embassy(Consulate) overseas.

Eligibility

Korean adoptees who have petitioned for Adoption Information Disclosure but can't verify their birth parents' identity as there is no or inadequate identifying information of birth parents

How to apply

After petitioning Adoption Information Disclosure, adoptees will be checked for eligibility from NCRC and then can visit a police station in Korea or Korean Embassy(Consulate) overseas for DNA testing

Category	Description
Police stations in Korea	Visit a police station in Korea with below required documents • Copy of ID card, Adoption records and Adoption certificate * The department in charge varies depending on the police station.
Korean Embassies (Consulates) overseas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Request a certificate from NCRC which confirms eligibility for DNA testing 2 Check which embassy(consulate) to visit and send a request form for the certificate along with a copy of ID card via email or post, etc * Check the list of available Korean Embassies(Consulates) overseas and required forms by scanning the QR code on the right



Process

• DNA sample taken by Korean Embassy(Consulate) or police station will be compared with the DNA database of missing children's families' by NCRC and National Forensic Service.

• When there is a DNA match, Korean Embassy(Consulate) or police will notify the test result to the adoptee. Then, NCRC will facilitate a family reunion.

Additional assistance for searching family

When birth parents cannot be found due to lack of information, adoptees can utilize services as below.

Category	Description
Posting profiles on the NCRC's bulletin board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign up and post profiles • Check birth parents' profiles who are searching for their adoptees
Promotion of stories in newspapers or media outlets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare required documents as below <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Consent for Collection and Use of Personal Information -Copy of ID card and adoption records • Make a request to NCRC to get media support via email or post, etc • To see more information, scan the QR code on the right



Permanent preservation of adoption records

NCRC created the database of adoption records by collecting information from now defunct adoption agencies or children's facilities so that such information can be provided to adoptees requesting for the disclosure of adoption information.

See the database of records collected by NCRC ▶



Interpretation and translation services

Volunteer interpreters/translators will help with letter exchanges and visits to adoptees' birth places or children's facilities.