

There are three easy ways to establish paternity in Utah.

	What is this?	How does this work?	Where can I do this?	How much does this cost?	What issues can this solve?
Voluntary Declaration of Paternity (VDP)	The VDP is a form that unmarried parents can sign to voluntarily say that a man is the biological father of the child.	The mother and the biological father sign the VDP in front of two witnesses. The signed VDP is filed with the Office of Vital Records and Statistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Hospitals or birth facilities (when a child is born) ◆ Office of Vital Records and Statistics ◆ All local health departments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Free, if filed by the healthcare facility with the birth certificate. ◆ \$18 if filed after the birth certificate, but within one year of the child's birth. ◆ \$25 if filed after the child's first year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Paternity ◆ Adds the father's name to Utah birth certificate ◆ Can change the child's name before the child's fifth birthday.
Administrative Paternity Order	An administrative paternity order does not involve the judicial court system, but the order has the same effect as a judicial order.	One of the parents must apply for child support services. Both parents receive a Notice of Agency Action (NAA). After the parents have time to respond to the NAA, provide more information or request genetic tests, an order is issued.	Office of Recovery Services locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Ogden ◆ Salt Lake City ◆ Provo ◆ Richfield ◆ St. George 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Paternity and order establishment services are FREE ◆ A schedule of fees charged for collection services is provided with the application. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Paternity ◆ Adds father's name to Utah birth certificates ◆ Child support ◆ Medical Insurance
Judicial Paternity Order	A judicial paternity order is the result of a court action in front of a judge or commissioner.	The parents may hire attorneys or represent themselves in court. Both parents receive court documents and can provide more information to the court. After all issues have been resolved, an order is established.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ District Courts ◆ Juvenile Courts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Filing fees set by the courts ◆ Attorney fees set by attorney ◆ Fees for a new birth certificate that includes the father's information set by the Office of Vital Records and Statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Paternity ◆ Allows the father's name to be added to Utah birth certificates ◆ Child Support ◆ Medical coverage ◆ Can change child's name ◆ Can address custody ◆ Can address parent-time (visitation)

How will you establish paternity for you child?

"Paternity" means "Fatherhood"

When an unmarried mother gives birth, the biological father does not have any of the rights or duties that go along with being a father.

"Paternity establishment" gives unmarried parents the same rights and duties that married parents have when a child is born.

"Paternity establishment" protects the child's important legal rights.

*When you're young,
you don't think about things
like medical coverage or Social Security.
But I saw what happened
when my mother raised me.
I want to make sure my son is protected.*

-from The Power of 2

Where Can I Get More Information?

Office of Vital Records and Statistics:

801-538-6105

Office of Recovery Services:

801-536-8500

Contact Paternity Matters by Web or E-mail:

[http:// paternity matters.utah.gov/](http://paternity.matters.utah.gov/)
orspaternitymatters@utah.gov

**Recorded presentation about the
Voluntary Declaration of Paternity:**

1-877-886-5332

**Legal Assistance for Custody,
Parent-Time, or Other Issues:**

Legal Aid Society	801-328-8849
Utah State Bar Association, Lawyer Referral Service	801-538-9077

**Voluntary Declaration of
Paternal legal citations**

Utah Code Annotated Title 78B, Chapter 15

Revised: August 2011



Office of Recovery Services
 Child Support Services
 515 East 100 South
 Salt Lake City, UT 84145

