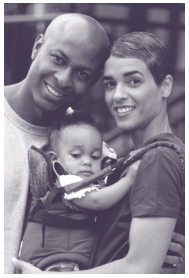
Can my
medical information be shared anonymously?

Yes, persons who wish to exchange medical information without revealing their identity may do so by indicating it on their application. In order to receive medical information through the registry, the adopted or surrendered person, birth parent or sibling, adoptive parent or legal guardian must complete the medical questionnaire and agree to exchange this information with other eligible registrants.



Is there
a fee for registering with the Adoption Registry?

Yes. There is a $15 filing fee. However, the fee will be waived if the registrant completes the Medical Information Exchange Questionnaire at the time of the initial application and agrees to the release of the medical questionnaire to at least one other party to the adoption.

The $15 fee also is waived for adoptive parents who register with the IARMIE within 12 months of the finalization of their child's adoption.

May I
update or amend my registration in the future?

Yes. Any registrant (including those who registered with the Illinois Adoption Registry prior to January 1, 2000) may update or amend information on file free of charge. However, updates and amendments must be accompanied by proof of identification (a photocopy of the registrant's driver's license or other state-or government-issued ID).

Where can
I find additional resources?

To protect the rights and well-being of children, birth parents and adoptive families, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) ensures that all Illinois agencies providing adoption services are licensed. For more information about adoptions in Illinois and for a list of licensed adoption agencies in Illinois, visit www.illinois.gov/dcfs/lovinghomes/adoption or call the Adoption Support Line at 888-96-ADOPT (888-962-3678).

I A R M I E
registration forms are available a number of ways.

- Download the forms from the Department's website: <www.dph.illinois.gov>.
- E-mail a request for forms to <dph.vitals@illinois.gov>.
- Call the registry at 877-323-5299, TTY (hearing impaired use only) 800-547-0466.
- Mail a request for forms to the Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Adoption Registry and Medical Information Exchange, Division of Vital Records, 925 E. Ridgely Ave., Springfield, IL 62702-2737.

For more information, contact
Illinois Department of Public Health
Illinois Adoption Registry and Medical Information Exchange
925 E. Ridgely Ave., Springfield, IL 62702-2737
217-557-5159 • TTY (hearing impaired use only) 800-547-0466

State of Illinois
Illinois Department of Public Health

Illinois Adoption Registry and Medical Information Exchange

Illinois has new options for adoption and post adoption

Illinois Department of Public Health

The Illinois Adoption Registry and Medical Information Exchange
offers Illinois adoptees and their birth and adoptive families post-adoption options.

What is
the Illinois Adoption Registry and Medical Information Exchange?

Through changes to the adoption registry law, the Illinois Adoption Registry and Medical Information Exchange (IARMIE) allows mutually consenting adopted and surrendered persons and members of their birth and adoptive families to voluntarily exchange a wealth of information without petitioning the courts. Individuals can remain anonymous and still share valuable personal and medical information.

What
information can be exchanged or released?

- the identity and last known address of other birth and adoptive family members who have registered with the IARMIE
- medical background information filed with the registry
- pictures and written statements filed with the registry
- the adoptee's original birth certificate *(providing he or she was born in Illinois)*

Who
may register?

Registration is open to –

- Birth parents
- Adopted or surrendered persons 21 years of age or older who were born, adopted or surrendered in Illinois
- Non-surrendered brothers and sisters over age 21 of those who were adopted or surrendered and a common parent is deceased
- Adoptive parents of eligible adopted persons under age 21 or any age if the adopted person is deceased
- Legal guardians of adopted or surrendered persons
- Surviving sister, brother or parent of a deceased birth parent
- Surviving adult child or grandchild of a deceased adopted person
- Surviving spouse of a deceased adopted person with a minor child

What is
required for the release of information?

Registrants must initially provide sufficient information about their identities and the circumstances surrounding the adoption or surrender to enable registry staff to locate the Illinois Department of Public Health's file on the adopted person. All registry applications must be accompanied by proof of the registrant's identity (photocopy of the registrant's driver's license or other state-or government-issued ID). Non-adopted birth siblings also are required to provide proof of death for the birth parent they have in common with the adopted person.

May I
submit written statements and photographs?

Yes. The Illinois Adoption Registry and Medical Information Exchange application includes two pages for submitting an optional written statement. Written statements filed with the registry cannot include identifying information regarding anyone other than the registrant.

Photographs can be submitted by enclosing them in an unsealed envelope no larger than 8.5" x 11." Photographs filed with the registry may not identify anyone other than the registrant who submits them. Photographs and statements that do not meet these requirements will be returned to the applicant.

How is
the medical information filed?

Medical information may be filed with the registry by registrants completing the Medical Information Exchange Questionnaire. The questionnaire includes a list of diseases and conditions that medical professionals believe may be inherited or genetically linked. Each applicant is asked to indicate on the questionnaire the diseases and conditions with which he/she or other biological relatives have been diagnosed. Knowing about the existence of certain inherited conditions and diseases can give clues to medical conditions that may run in a birth family.