



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

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[Español \(/es/manutencion-ninos/paternidad/reconocimiento-de-paternidad-aop\)](#)

[About \(/about-office\)](#) [News \(/news\)](#)

[Opinions \(/attorney-general-opinions\)](#)

[Jobs \(/careers/job-listings\)](#) [Contact Us \(/contact-us\)](#) [🔍](#)

  
Menu

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[HOME \(/\)](#) > [CHILD SUPPORT IN TEXAS \(/CHILD-SUPPORT\)](#) > [PATERNITY \(/CHILD-SUPPORT/PATERNITY\)](#) >  
[ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PATERNITY \(AOP\)](#)

# Acknowledgement of Paternity (AOP)

An Acknowledgement of Paternity (AOP) is a legal document that allows parents who aren't married to establish legal paternity.

## Who can complete an Acknowledgement of Paternity (AOP)?

Biological parents who want to establish their child's legal rights to his or her father can voluntarily establish paternity with an Acknowledgement of Paternity (AOP).

## How to File an Acknowledgement of Paternity (AOP)

To complete and file an AOP, both parents must work with an AOP-certified entity. AOP-certified entities have been trained by the Office of the Attorney General to help parents voluntarily establish paternity.

To find an AOP-certified entity – or if the other parent is in the military, incarcerated, or living in a different city or state – contact:

AOP Hotline

(866) 255-2006

[Find an AOP certified entity near you.](#)

<https://csapps.oag.texas.gov/find-AOP-certified-entity>

**Important:** Minors can sign the AOP without parental consent.

## Common AOP Questions

When filling out the AOP with your AOP-certified entity, several common situations may come up. Click on the topic below to learn more.

**[The Mother Is Married to a Person Who Is Not the Biological Father](#)** +

**[What If I Cannot Complete the AOP at the Same Time as the Other Parent](#)** +

**[What If I Change My Mind About the AOP Later?](#)** +

## AOP Hotline

The AOP Hotline can help answer your questions about the Acknowledgement of Paternity and find an AOP-certified entity to help you complete the document.

Toll-free: (866) 255-2006