

Instructions for completing
Petition for Adoption of Related Minor Child
NHJB 3198-FP

Form use. This petition is the primary form filed in the adoption of a minor child who is related to one or both petitioners (e.g., aunt, uncle, grandparent, step parent, etc.) An original birth certificate for the child and any required surrenders and assents must be filed with the petition.

Top part of form

- COURT NAME:** Enter the name of the court where the document will be filed.
- CASE NAME:** Enter the birth/legal name as on the current birth certificate of the child who will be adopted (example: Adoption of John Adams; Adoption of Susan Jones).
- CASE NUMBER:** Leave blank if not yet assigned by court OR fill in case number if it is known.

Numbered part of form

1. **Petitioner A Name** is the name of the person filing the petition. Enter that person's name and **date of birth**. Enter the complete mailing **address with zip code**, and **telephone number**. Enter the complete **residence** address including city or town, and the length of time the petitioner has resided there. Check one box to indicate petitioner's marital status and the name of spouse if not a co-petitioner. Enter petitioner's relationship to the adoptee, i.e., the **current** relationship with the proposed adoptee, such as step-parent, aunt/uncle, etc.
2. **If there is a more than one petitioner, enter Petitioner B Name.** This is the name of the second person filing the petition. Enter that person's name and **date of birth**. Enter the complete mailing **address with zip code**, and **telephone number**. Enter the complete residence address including city or town, and the length of time the petitioner has resided there. Check one box to indicate petitioner's marital status and the name of spouse if not a co-petitioner. Enter petitioner's relationship to the adoptee, i.e., the **current** relationship with the proposed adoptee, such as step-parent, aunt/uncle, etc.
3. Complete this section **ONLY** if the petitioner has an **attorney** helping with this case. Enter his or her name, telephone number, complete mailing address including zip code, and NH Bar Identification number.
4. If there is more than one petitioner, enter the **petitioners' relationship to one another**.
5. If the child was placed with petitioner(s) by an outside person or agency, enter the **date the child was placed in the home of the petitioner(s)**. On the second line, enter the name of the **Person or agency that placed the child in the home**.
6. If the **Petitioner(s) was/were granted custody of the child** in a previous court hearing, enter the date of the order and the name of the court granting custody on the lines provided.
7. Check yes or no to indicate whether or not this child is an **American Indian child** as defined by the Indian Child Welfare Act. If yes, **enter the name and address of the tribe** on the line provided. Check yes or no to indicate whether or not **this tribe is recognized by the federal government as eligible for federal services or certain Alaskan native corporations**.
8. The **Child Birth Name** is the name given to the child at birth. Enter the name of the child on the line provided. Also, enter the child's **date of birth, place of birth** and the address where the child lives.
9. Enter the **Legal/Biological Parent A Name**, mailing address with zip code and telephone number on the lines provided. **This is the name of the child's legal parent as stated on the child's current birth certificate.**

10. If applicable, enter the **Legal/Biological Parent B Name**, mailing address with zip code and telephone number on the lines provided. **This is the name of the child's other current legal parent as stated on the child's current birth certificate.**
11. If there is any other person who is a biological or legal parent, check the Yes box and enter the name(s) If not, check No.
12. If the child has been previously adopted, check the Yes box and enter the child's prior name(s) and name(s) of the court(s) where adoption occurred, if known. If the child was not previously adopted, check No.
13. If the child was conceived through assisted reproductive technology using donor egg, donor sperm or donor embryo, check Yes. Otherwise, check No.
14. This question is asking whether there are other court cases involving the child or proposed adoptive parents of the child. Read this question carefully and check either the yes or no box. If yes, attach a separate sheet identifying and explaining each case.

Signature section

In the paragraph prior to the signatures, the petitioners request the adoption be ordered by the court and, if applicable, the **name of the child be changed**. Enter the new name for the child, if applicable, on the line provided.

This form must be signed in the presence of a Notary Public or Justice of the Peace. They will complete the section immediately following your signature. You will sign the form on the **Petitioner's Signature** line, and date it in the appropriate space to the left. If there are two petitioners, both petitioners must sign and date the form.

Assents

The following assents are to be completed **ONLY** if applicable to this petition.

CHILD'S ASSENT

If the child mentioned in this petition is age 14 or older, he/she must give assent in the presence of the Judge to this adoption and change of name, if applicable. The child will sign the form on the **Child's Signature** line and date it in the appropriate space to the left. The **Presiding Judge** will sign on the line provided.

ASSENT OF PETITIONER'S SPOUSE OR PARTNER WHO IS PARENT OF ADOPTEE

If a birth parent's spouse or partner is adopting the adoptee, and the birth parent intends to maintain all parental right along with the petitioner, he/she must assent to the petitioner's adoption in this section. Signing in this section assures that his/her name will remain on the birth certificate along with the new parent.

ASSENT OF PETITIONER'S SPOUSE TO ADOPTION OF CHILD

If the spouse of the petitioner is not the co-petitioner, he/she must assent to the petitioner's adoption of the child named by signing his/her name on the **Spouse Signature** line and date it in the appropriate space to the left.

ASSENT OF ADOPTEE'S SPOUSE

If the minor being adopted is married, the spouse of the adoptee must assent to this adoption by signing his/her name on the **Spouse Signature** line and date it in the appropriate space to the left.

Decree

This section will be completed by the judge once the document is filed with the court and reviewed in detail by the judge.

Review the completed form for accuracy prior to filing it with the court. If more space is needed for any question, please attach additional sheets of paper.