

Adoption is an excellent option for families.

Especially for those that want children but can't have biological children.

By bringing in a child that is not your own, you give them a second chance at life. You also do an EXCELLENT service to your community.

Before you begin the adoption, you should know that this can be a lengthy and complicated process. You must take several steps before even getting considered a candidate for adoption. There may be legal issues with one or both biological parents.

The Rosenblum Allen Law Firm can help you navigate this process to bring a new child into your family.

The following is a brief checklist to guide you through the adoption process. We will also give you some helpful hints when preparing to adopt a child in Nevada.

## *Make Sure You Are Eligible*

Before you begin the adoption process, you need to make sure you are eligible to adopt a child in your state. Nevada has several criteria you must meet to adopt a child.

### **These include:**

- Having enough income to provide care for the child
- Legal resident of the state of Nevada
- Be able to provide a loving, safe home for the child
- Being at least 21 years of age and ten years older than the child
- Passing a background and character check
- If married or with a partner, they must be a willing participant in the adoption process

These criteria are in place to ensure the child's best interests get met. If you do not meet these requirements, your application can get denied.

## *Types of Adoption in Nevada*

There are several types of adoption in the United States. Each type of adoption has its parameters and expectations. An experienced family attorney can help you choose the best process for you.

## Adoption Agencies

Adoption agencies are one of the most common forms of adoption. In this process, a public or private agency helps to set the adoptive parents with a child.

These children are often called wards of the state. The birth parents have taken their child to the agency to give them up for adoption. Or the parents may have lost custody due to a court decision.

## Independent Adoptions

In this form of adoption, there is a direct pledge between the birth parents and adoptive parents. Both parties meet and discuss the expectations and parameters of the adoption.

It is good to have an attorney to help both parties lay out the adoption terms in independent adoptions. This step can protect both the birth and adoptive parents protect their rights.

## Identified Adoption

This third type of adoption is a bit of a hybrid of the previous two. There is a meeting between the birth and adoptive parents. Then it gets followed by the involvement of an agency.

## Closed and Open Adoptions

In some adoptions, the biological parents can contact the child after the adoption. These open adoptions allow the birth family still to be a part of the child's life.

Closed adoptions, do not allow the biological parents to contact the child or new family. This form of adoption will enable families to have a sense of closure at the end of the process.

There are pros and cons to both types of adoptions. Your attorney can help you decide which type of adoption is best for you and the child.

## Adoption Home Study

Nevada requires a home study to determine in certain circumstances. The social workers there will help you ensure that bringing in a child is the best thing for them and you.

They can also help if something in your home needs to be fixed before the adoption process starts.

There are three phases to a Nevada home study.

These include an in-home visit, a home inspection, and a documentation phase. There are a few steps you can take to prepare for each part.

- Choose a home study provider near you.
- Complete background checks.
- Meet with the social worker that is conducting your home study so that you can prepare for the rest of the process.
- Prepare all items for your home study checklist.
- Complete in-home visit with a social worker.

Confirm that information is correct when provided with the home study. Contact them for any corrections.

## *Home Study Checklist*

The home study documentation phase can be the most stressful part. This checklist runs down all the documentation you will need to provide. Depending on your situation, there are some items you will not need to provide.

- Driver's license
- Proof of insurance
- Birth certificate
- Marriage certificate
- Green card
- Passports
- Health statements, including records of check-ups and physicals
- Background check and clearance from local law enforcement
- Financial information, including pay stubs, tax records, or income statements
- References with names, phone numbers, and addresses
- Autobiographical accounts to provide an idea of who you are, and your adoption hopes

Once the home study process gets completed, the findings get reported. If there are no concerns in this process, you will then get approved to begin the adoption process.

## *Seek the Help of a Family Court Attorney*

Adoption can be a long and drawn-out process. You must know your rights as an adoptive parent and the rights of the birth parents of the child. A family court attorney can help you navigate this process.

If you seek to adopt a child in Nevada, contact The Rosenblum Allen Law Firm. Our team of family court attorneys can help you through the adoption process.

Give us a call at (702) 433-2889 or email us at [staff@rosenblumlawlv.com](mailto:staff@rosenblumlawlv.com) with any questions.