

Are you at least 18 years of age?

No

You are not yet old enough to request your own vital records.

Yes

Were you born in Arkansas?

No

Were you adopted in Arkansas?

No

Arkansas does not have your birth certificate or your adoption records.

Yes

Were you adopted?

No

You may obtain your original birth certificate upon request.

Yes

Were you issued a new birth certificate after the adoption?

No

This is usually "Yes," though the court decreeing the adoption, the adoptive parents, or the adopted person can request that no new birth certificate be issued.

Yes

You may request your "adoption file" from the Department of Health, provided you meet other requirements.

The adoption file consists of the original birth certificate and the court decree of adoption, on file with the Arkansas Department of Health.

You will need to petition the Court in Arkansas for your court records, which may or may not have a copy of your OBC in the file.

Click Next to see if you qualify.

NEXT



Arkansas: Requesting Your Adoption File*

**new law effective August 1, 2018. The adoption file should include an original birth certificate.*

Are you at least 21 years of age?

No

You must be at least 21 years of age to request your adoption file in Arkansas.

Yes

Have you submitted the required form to the Arkansas Department of Health?

Yes

Use form VR-504 and submit with proper identification and proof of relationship if you are not the adoptee.



Did you pay \$100?



The fee to request your adoption file is \$100, more than eight times the fee non-adopted people pay to obtain their own birth certificates.

Yes

Your form and fee

Submitted to the

Arkansas Department of Health

Did a birthparent file a redaction request?

Yes

No

If an adoption file contains a [birth parent redaction request], the department shall redact the birth parent's name from the copy of the adoption file before it is mailed to the requester.

A redacted OBC is released, with a birthparent's identifying information removed.

An unredacted OBC is released, along with the court's adoption decree.