

## Steps in the Search - Outer Journey

## Contact Details

1. Contact the government department responsible for adoption in the state where the adoption occurred and make an application for adoption information. In Qld, with your adoption information you will receive an Authority Form that is needed to get more information from Qld Births Deaths and Marriages (BDM).

For further information consider applying to Right to Information or Time in Care Information Access Service (if you spent time in care before adoption).

2. Using the authority form, adoptees and birth parents can apply for a pre-adoption/original birth certificate from BDM. Biological parents can apply to receive an Amended Birth Certificate that contains the adopted person's name and the adoptive parents' names.

3. Apply to BDM for marriage details to obtain any change of name for female adoptees and biological mothers. This may need to be done in other states, if no record found in Queensland.

4. Check electoral rolls. These are public records and are available for viewing for the whole of Australia at your nearest office.

5. Check other resources for clues such as past electoral rolls (on ancestry.com); white pages; internet searches. Look for death notices using the Ryerson Index online. See Jigsaw Qld searching sites information sheet for more search options.

6. Apply to BDM for a death search if the above steps are unsuccessful.

7. For further advice and support in locating to your relative you can contact Jigsaw Qld or Post Adoption Support QLD. Once a relative has been located consider contacting Jigsaw Qld or PASQ for support in making contact with your relative. Jigsaw Qld and PASQ can act as an intermediary in making contact.

8. If you have an indigenous heritage, Link-Up Qld has a specialist service available.

9. For international family and post-adoption tracing and reunification support contact International Social Service (ISS). Fees may be charged.

10. If you reach a dead end, you may like consider genealogical DNA testing. See Jigsaw Qld information sheet.

### Adoption Services (Qld Gov.)

(07) 30975100 or 1800 647 983

<https://www.qld.gov.au/community/caring-child/adoption/post-adoption-support-services/how-request-adoption-information>

### Right to Information (RTI)

(07) 3097 5603 or 1800 809 078

(fees apply for RTI searches)

### Time in Care Information Access Service (TICAS) Ph 1800 809 078

### Births Deaths & Marriages Qld

13 74 68

<https://www.qld.gov.au/law/births-deaths-marriages-and-divorces/birth-registration-and-adoption-records/access-to-adoption-records>  
(Authority Form Required)

### Births Deaths & Marriages

(Authority Form Required)

### Australian Electoral Commission

13 23 26

<http://www.aec.gov.au>

### Jigsaw Queensland

<https://www.jigsawqueensland.com/information-sheets>

### Births Deaths & Marriages

(Authority Form Required)

### Jigsaw Queensland

### & Forced Adoption Support Service

(07) 3358 6666 or 1800 210 313

E: [support@jigsawqld.org.au](mailto:support@jigsawqld.org.au)

### Post Adoption Support Qld (PASQ)

07 3170 4600 1300 236 762

### Link Up Qld

(07) 3638 0411 1800 200 855

### International Social Service

1300 657 843

[www.iss.org.au](http://www.iss.org.au)

<https://www.jigsawqueensland.com/dna>

*Read as much as you can about search and reunion.*

*Talk about your feelings with people you trust.*

*Ask questions.*

*Reflect on your expectations.*

*Look at different perspectives – especially from the found person's viewpoint*

*Be aware of the impact on those around you.*

*Prepare yourself for possible reunion.*

*Attend support groups*