

State	Consent: Does father have consent rights?	Putative Father: Does state have a putative father registry? If so, who qualifies for it?	Contact: Is playing a role in child's life a requirement for establishing paternal rights? How much of a role? Time frame?	Notice Requirement: Does father have a right to notice of adoption?	Miscellaneous
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<p><b>Alabama</b> (Uniform Parentage Act)</p>	<p>Presumed father must give consent, regardless of paternity, under the guidelines of the Uniform Parentage Act. <i>Code of Ala. §26-10A-7(a)(3)</i>. Consent cannot be arbitrarily withheld. <i>§26-10A-7</i>. However, if biological father subsequently marries biological mother, he may adopt the child without consent of the man married to biological mother at time of conception or birth of child if court finds adoption in the best interest of the child. The court shall order paternity tests to determine the true biological father. <i>§26-10A-5</i>. Putative father has consent rights if his identity is made known by the mother or is otherwise made known to the court provided he provided he complies with Section 26-10C-1 and responds within 30 days to notice of</p>	<p>Putative father registry. <i>Code of Ala. §26-10C</i>. Any person who claims to be the natural father of a child and files his notice of intent to claim paternity prior to or within 30 days of the birth of a child born out of wedlock is registered on the putative father registry. If he fails to file such notice within stated time period, he shall be deemed to have given an irrevocable implied consent to any adoption.</p>	<p>Consent to adoption or relinquishment of paternal rights implied by leaving adoptee without provision for his identification for a period of 30 days, knowingly leaving the adoptee with others without provision for support or communication, or otherwise not maintaining a significant parental relationship with the adoptee for a period of six months. <i>Code of Ala. §26-10A-9(A)(2-3)</i>.</p>	<p>Notice must be given to father by the mother or otherwise by the court unless court finds implied consent as defined in Section 26-10A-9. <i>Code of Ala. §26-10A-17(a)(10)</i>. Must respond to notice within 30 days of service if he or she intends to contest the adoption. <i>§26-10A-17(b)</i>. Registration in putative father registry entitles father to notice of adoption petition and their consent or relinquishment would be required provided that they responded within 30 days of the notice of the pending adoption. <i>Code of Ala. §26-10A-7</i> citing <i>MVS v. VMD</i>, 776 S. 2d 142 (Ala. Civ. App. 1999).</p>	<p>Adoption statutes conflict re: whether prebirth conduct is relevant to implied consent &amp; abandonment Prebirth conduct towards mother is relevant only toward fitness as a parent, not abandonment. <i>Code of Ala §26-10A-2</i> citing <i>Ex parte C.V. 1000 Ala. Lexis 500 (Ala. Nov. 17 2000)</i>. But see, <i>26-10A-9(a)</i>, Abandonment includes, but not restricted to, the failure of the father, with reasonable knowledge of the pregnancy, to offer financial and/or emotional support for a period of six months prior to birth. Consent may be withdrawn within the later of 5 days after signing or birth (may be extended an additional 9 days). <i>§26-10A-14(a)</i>.</p>
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	adoption petition. §26-10A-7(a)(5). Consent of natural father not required where natural mother indicates natural father is unknown, unless natural father is otherwise made known to court. §26-10A-10(6).				
<b>Alaska</b>	Consent of father not required unless father was married to mother at time child conceived or at any time after conception, the minor is the father's child by adoption, or the father has otherwise legitimated the child under the laws of the state. <i>Alaska Stat. §25.23.040(a)(2)</i> . Consent and notice not required if contact requirements under §25.23.050(a) not met, including failure to respond in writing to written request for consent for 60 days or court finds consent unreasonably withheld. §25.23.050(a)(8).	No putative father registry. Acknowledgement of paternity, thereby legitimating the child, may be filed at any time prior to the entry of an adoption decree. Filing of adoption petition does not preclude biological father from filing a written acknowledgement of paternity. <i>Alaska Stat. §25.20.050</i> citing <i>In re L.A.H.</i> , 597 P.2d 513 (Alaska 1979).	Consent to adoption is not required for (i) a parent who has abandoned a child for at least six months, or (ii) a parent of a child left in the custody of another if for at least one year that parent has failed significantly to communicate meaningfully with the child or failed to provide care and support of the child. Consent of the child's father may not be dispensed with even if it is in the best interest of the child to do so <i>Alaska Stat. §25.23.050(a)(1)&amp;(2)</i> .	Notice not required if the contact requirements under §25.23.040(a) are not met. <i>Alaska Stat. §25.23.050</i> . Rights of notice may be relinquished by parent via termination of parent and child relationship authorized by the parent or the court. <i>Alaska Stat. §25.23.180</i> .	Statute precludes consideration of best interests of child in determining whether a father may legitimate the adoptee during the pendency of adoption proceeding and so forecloses adoption absent his consent. A biological father's right to legitimate a child is not impeded by any subjective judicial evaluation. <i>Alaska Stat. §25.20.050</i> citing <i>In re L.A.H.</i>
	Consent of father	Putative father registry.	Paternal rights are based on	Registration as a putative	Consent to adoption is

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<b>Arizona</b>	required if father was married to child's mother at time of conception or between conception and birth unless his paternity is excluded or another man's paternity has been established, the father has adopted the child, or the father's paternity has been established. <i>A.R.S. §8-106(A)(2)</i> . An adoption cannot proceed when a natural parent does not consent unless the court terminates that parent's rights. <i>A.R.S. §8-106</i> citing <i>In re Maricopa County, 171 Ariz. 90, (Ct. App. 1991)</i> .	<i>A.R.S. §8-106.01</i> . Claims of paternity must be filed prior to birth or within 30 days after birth. <i>A.R.S. §8-106.01(B)</i> . In addition, when bringing adoption proceedings, the mother must provide the court with a signed affidavit listing all potential fathers. The affidavit shall attest that all of the information contained in the affidavit is complete and accurate. <i>A.R.S. §8-106(F)</i> .	registration as a putative father or acknowledgement as a potential father, and degree of contact is not grounds for standing in adoption proceedings. However, failure to maintain a normal parental relationship without just cause for six months is defined as abandonment under <i>A.R.S. 8-531(1)</i> , and may be used by the court as grounds to terminate parental rights. <i>A.R.S. §8-533(B)(1)</i> .	father entitles father to notice of adoption proceedings. If a mother denies that a registered putative father is the actual father, the putative father shall receive notice of his responsibility to establish paternity. <i>A.R.S. §8-106.01</i> . Notice shall also be served on each potential father. Failure to file paternity action within 30 days of service of notice bars potential or putative father from bringing any action to assert any interest in the child. <i>A.R.S. §8-106(G)</i> .	irrevocable unless obtained by fraud, duress or undue influence. <i>A.R.S. §8-106(D)</i> .
<b>Arkansas</b>	Father has consent rights if married to mother at conception or "otherwise legitmat[ised] the minor" Ark. Code Ann. § 9-9-206, unless rights have been terminated by court. Ark. Code Ann. § 9-9-207. Furthermore, father must respond within sixty days of	Arkansas has putative registry which contains information of males alleging to be father of child (except if presumed or legitimatised father). Putative father may register before birth of child. Ark. Code Ann. § 20-18-702	Playing a role in a child's life is a requirement for establishing paternal rights. Parent will loose rights if for at least a year, he has not (1) communicated with the child, or (2) provided for the care and support of the child. Ark. Code Ann. § 9-9-207	Father has a right to notice, and it must be given twenty days prior to a hearing for males 1) who was married to mother at time of conception or otherwise legitimatised the child; and 2) any "person whose consent is dispensed with upon any ground mentioned" in select sections of 9-9-207 (which includes individuals who have abandoned the child, failed to maintain a relationship with	There appears to be a discrepancy in Ark. Code Ann. § 9-9-212 in terms of who is entitled to notice. It is unclear as to a reason why individuals who have had their parental rights dispensed with (particularly if rights have been judicially revoked) under Ark. Code Ann. §9-9-207 would still be allow to notice of adoption proceeding.

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	receiving notice of consent rights. Ark. Code Ann. § 9-9-207			child or provide support, or been declared mentally defective.) Ark. Code Ann. § 9-9-212	
<b>California</b> (Uniform Parentage Act)	Presumed father must consent to adoption. <i>Cal. Fam. Code §8604(a)</i> . Father must consent to adoption unless his rights have been waived by himself or the court or the father has been served with written notice that he is or could be the natural father of the child to be adopted and has failed to bring an action for paternity within 30 days of the service of notice or the birth of the child, whichever is later. Cal. Fam. Code §7662.	No putative father registry. Fulfillment of criteria of Uniform Parentage Act (see Appendix) creates rebuttable presumption of paternity. <i>Cal.Fam. Code §§7611-7612</i> .	Contact required is that under the Uniform Parentage Act. Cal. Fam. Code §7662 citing <i>In re Sabrina H 217 Cal. App. 3d 702 (4<sup>th</sup> Dist. 1990)</i> . Willful failure to communicate with the child and to pay for the support of the child for one year when able to do so, then the birth parent having sole custody may consent to the adoption <i>Cal. Fam. Code §8604(b)</i> .	Natural father or possible father identified to the court must be provided notice of proceeding unless has been served with written notice that he is or could be the natural father of the child to be adopted and has failed to bring action for paternity within 30 days of service of notice whichever is later. <i>Cal. Fam. Code §7664(a)</i> .	If natural father claims parental rights, court shall determine if it is in the best interest of the child that the father retain his parental rights or that an adoption shall be allowed to proceed. If the court finds that it is in the best interest of the child that the father should be allowed to retain his parental rights, his consent is necessary for an adoption. Otherwise consent is not required for an adoption. <i>Cal. Fam. Code §7664(b)</i> .
<b>Colorado</b> (Uniform Parentage Act)	Parent must consent to termination of his parental rights or have such rights terminated by the court. <i>C.R.S. 19-5-203</i> . Objecting parent must show willingness to assume obligations. <i>19-5-203</i> citing <i>People in Interest of SST, 38 Colo. App. 110</i>	Putative fathers may register, but mother must attest in writing that putative father is child's father. <i>C.R.S. §25-2-112(3-4)</i> Satisfaction of Uniform Parentage Act criteria (see Appendix) also creates a presumption of paternity. <i>C.R.S. 19-4-105(1)</i> . Action disputing presumed paternity must be before the child's 5 <sup>th</sup>	Court may terminate parental rights if in best interest of child and parent has not promptly taken substantial parental responsibility for child, including answer to notice and petition to terminate the parent-child relationship within 30 days of service, reasonable support, assistance to mother. <i>C.R.S. 19-5-105(3.1)(b-c)</i> .	All potential parents shall be notified of adoption petition. <i>C.R.S. 19-5-105(3)</i> . A parent who has abandoned child is not entitled to notice. <i>19-5-203</i> citing <i>Smith v. Welfare Dept. 144 Colo. 103 (1960)</i> . Abandonment is a case specific question based on the intent of the parent, but seems to require that there be no contact for at least one year. <i>Moreau v. Buchholz, 124</i>	When presumptions of paternity arise in more than one potential father, trial courts must take best interests of child into account as part of resolving competing presumptions. <i>C.R.S. 19-4-105</i> citing <i>NAH v. SLS, 9 P.3d 354 (Colo. 2000)</i> .

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	<i>(1976)</i> . Consent not required where parent has abandoned child. Citing <i>Neville v. Bracher</i> , 94 Colo. 550 (1934).	birthday. <i>C.R.S. 19-4-107(1)(b)</i> .		<i>Colo. 302 (1951)</i> .	
Connecticut	Only adjudicated father's consent to termination of parental rights is necessary under <i>Conn. Gen. Stat. § 45a-717</i> .	No putative father registry.	Abandonment provides grounds for termination of parental rights and occurs when parent has failed to maintain a reasonable amount of interest or concern for welfare of child. Adjudication of neglect is not a prerequisite to order terminating parental rights on the basis of abandonment. <i>Conn. Gen. Stat. §17a-112</i>	Father entitled to notice of termination proceedings only if has been adjudicated the father, has acknowledged paternity in writing, has provided support, name appears on birth certificate, has filed a claim for paternity, or has been named in termination petition as the father by child's mother. <i>Conn. Gen. Stat. §45a-716</i> .	Parental rights must be terminated prior to adoption proceedings except in cases of adoption by blood relatives or spouses of custodial parents.
Delaware (Uniform Parentage Act)	In most adoptions, parental rights must have already been terminated and vested in state authorized agency. In the case of an adoption by a stepparent or blood relative, the biological father and any presumed father of a child have consent rights. <i>13 Del. C. §908</i> . Such termination is often based upon consent of the parents. <i>§1106</i> . Consent of father may be dispensed with if in best interests of child.	Under the Uniform Parentage Act, presumed father may timely register at any point up to thirty days after birth of child if he wants notice of hearings to determine adoption or termination of parental rights. Presumed father is not required to register if either a father/child relationship is established or father currently in proceeding to determine rights. <i>Del. Code Ann. Tit. 13 § 8-402</i> .	Abandonment, which includes intent to abandon as a necessary component, provides grounds for termination of parental rights, including failure to share in prenatal and postnatal costs or visit the child if the child is less than 6 months old. Above age of six months, lack of communication, willingness to maintain physical custody for a period of 6 months are some grounds for abandonment. <i>13 Del. C. §1103</i> .	Notice shall be provided to presumed father regarding termination proceedings, if the presumed father has provided support, formally acknowledged or claimed paternity, or if the court determines that he can be identified. <i>13 Del. C. §1107</i> . Notice must be given to putative father who have timely filed with the putative father registry. <i>Del. Code Ann. Tit. 13 § 8-403</i> .	Consent to a blood relative or stepparent adoption does not and need not constitute an admission of paternity. <i>13 Del. C. §908(b)(2)</i>

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	<p>§1103. May consent directly to adoption by stepparent or blood relative. §908. Putative father has no rights in illegitimate child, nor any superior right to adopt his illegitimate child. §915 citing <i>In re A</i>, 226 A.2d 863(Del. 1967).</p>				
<b>Florida</b>	<p>Consent of father necessary only if child was conceived while married to mother, child is his by adoption, the mother reasonably believes him to be the father, his paternity has been adjudicated, he has filed as father, he is party in a paternity suit, or he has provided child with support in a repetitive, customary manner. <i>Fla. Stat. §63.062(1)(b)</i>. See also 2001 <i>Fl. ALS 3 §13</i> for most recent amendments, included above.</p>	<p>No putative father registry.</p>	<p>Abandonment is among grounds for termination of parental rights. <i>Fla. Stat. Ch. 39.806</i>. But, in <i>In the interest of SAB v. Robert Wilson</i>, 735 So. 2d 523(<i>Fla. App.</i> 1999), the court did give priority to consent rights of natural father over an existing paternal relationship. In case of parent is incarcerated, parental rights are terminated pursuant to <i>Fla. Stat. Ch. 39.806(1)(d)</i>.</p>	<p>Father entitled to notice if he has rights to consent. <i>Fla. Stat. Ch.63.062</i>. Failure to respond to notice or request for consent to termination of parental rights waives consent rights. <i>Amended §63.089</i>, delineated in 2001 <i>Fl. ALS 3 §18</i>.</p>	
<b>Georgia</b>	<p>Father of illegitimate child has no standing with regard to child unless he legitimates child in courts.</p>	<p>Putative father registry. Registration may acknowledge paternity or possibility of paternity. <i>O.C.G.A. §19-9-11-9</i>.</p>	<p>Failure to communicate or attempt to communicate with child or to provide for and support child for one year or longer constitutes</p>	<p>Right of notice to terminate parental rights regardless of whether consent is necessary to adoption. <i>O.C.G.A. §19-8-10(c)</i>.</p>	

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	<p><i>O.C.G.A. §19-7-25</i> citing <i>Hall v. Hall</i>, 222 Ga. 820 (1966). Legal father must consent to termination of parental rights. <i>§19-8-4(a)(1)</i>. A legal father has adopted the child, was married to mother at birth or conception, married to mother after birth and recognizes child as his own, is adjudicated father, or has legitimated the child. <i>§19-8-1(6)</i>.</p>	<p>Registry defines who should receive notice of hearings regarding adoption or termination of paternal rights.</p>	<p>abandonment and waives right of consent to adoption. <i>O.C.G.A. §19-8-10(b)</i>.</p>	<p>Biological father entitled to notice of adoption if known, registered as putative father and has acknowledged paternity or possible paternity, or might otherwise meet consent requirements. <i>§19-8-12</i>.</p>	
<p><b>Hawaii</b> (Uniform Parentage Act)</p>	<p>Consent required of a legal or adjudicated father. <i>HRS §578-2(a)(2-3)</i>. Consent required of presumed father if standards of Uniform Parentage Act are met <i>§578-2(a)(4) &amp; (d)</i>. Consent of natural father required when father has demonstrated reasonable degree of interest during first 30 days after birth, prior to execution of valid consent by mother, or prior to placement of child with adoptive</p>	<p>No putative father registry, but legal father has rights beyond natural father including stricter notice rights. <i>HRS §571-61(b)(4)</i>.</p>	<p>No communication when parent is able to communicate with child or failure to support child for one year or voluntary surrender of custody and care are grounds for termination of parental rights without consent. <i>HRS §571-61(b)(1)</i>.</p>	<p>If petition to terminate rights filed, entitled to notice of proceedings 20 days prior to adjudication. <i>HRS §571-61(b)(3)</i>. Greater burden to provide presumed or legal father with notice than natural father. <i>§571-61(b)(4)</i>. If required to consent to adoption, then entitled to notice of proceedings. <i>§ 578-2(e)</i></p>	<p>If the paramount consideration in any case involving a child born out of wedlock is the best interests of the child, there is no reason for a rule which gives preference to the father. <i>HRS §571-61</i> citing <i>In re Doe II</i>, 52 Haw. 448, 478 P.2d 844 (1970).</p>

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	<p>parents. §578-2(a)(5) Consent of natural father not necessary to terminate parental rights if contact requirements are not met, in the case of stepfather adoption, if father has not filed or has been denied a petition for adoption, or he cannot financially support the child. <i>HRS §571-61(b)(2)</i>.</p>				
<p><b>Idaho</b></p>	<p>Biological father is presumed to know child may be adopted without his consent unless he strictly complies with adoption requirements, manifests a prompt and full commitment to his parental responsibilities, and establishes paternity. <i>Idaho Code §16-1504(3)(e)</i>. Consent required of adjudicated father, putative father, and biological father if (i) he has developed meaningful relationship with child, or (ii) if child</p>	<p>Putative father registry. Failure to register prior to filing of adoption proceedings constitutes waiver of parental rights. <i>Idaho Code §16-1513(4)</i>.</p>	<p>Monthly visits (as long as physically and financially possible) required to establish meaningful relationship under §16-1504(1). <i>Idaho Code §16-1504(2)(a)(i)(1)</i>. Parental relationship can be terminated without consent if father fails to maintain normal relationship for more than one year. <i>§16-2005(a)</i>.</p>	<p>Entitled to notice if consent is required or has started paternity proceedings unless rights have been waived or terminated. <i>Idaho Code §16-1505 (1)(a &amp; b)</i>.</p>	<p>An unmarried biological father has an interest protected only when he demonstrates commitment to the responsibilities of parenthood, during pregnancy and upon child's birth. Unmarried biological father required to demonstrate that commitment by providing appropriate medical care and financial support and by establishing legal paternity. <i>Idaho Code § 16-1504(2)(a,b)</i>.</p>

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	is less than 6 months old, he has manifested a clear commitment to the child, including commencement of paternity proceedings. <i>§16-1504(1)(d, e &amp; i)</i>				
<b>Illinois</b>	Consent of father required if married to mother at birth of within 300 days prior to birth, adjudicated father, has held himself out to be biological father within 30 days of birth, has made a good faith effort to contribute to expenses of child's birth and 30 days after birth, or has maintained substantial and continuous contact with child. <i>750 ILCS 50/8(b)(1)(B)</i> . Putative father must consent if within 30 days of registration, he has filed to establish paternity. <i>8(b)(1)(B)(vii)</i> ,	Putative father registry. <i>750 ILCS 50/12.1</i> . Must register prior to or within 30 days after child's birth. <i>12.1(b)</i> . A lack of knowledge of pregnancy or birth is not valid reason for failure to register in a timely manner. <i>12.1(g)</i> .	Monthly visits or regular communication are required, along with support, to establish substantial and continuous contact with the child. <i>750 ILCS 50/8(b)(1)(B)(v)</i> .	Right of notice to putative father of adoption proceedings. <i>750 ILCS 50/12a</i> .	
<b>Indiana</b>	Consent required of adjudicated or registered putative father. <i>Burns Ind.</i>	Putative father registry. Must file within 2 years of birth unless: both parents waive 2 year	Lose consent rights in cases of abandonment for 6 months immediately prior to adoption proceedings or, if the child is	Failure to register as putative father waives right to notice. <i>Burns Ind. Code Ann. IC 31-14-20-2</i> .	Presumed biological father if: the man and the child's biological mother are or have been married to each other;

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	<i>Code Ann. IC 31-19-9-1(2)</i> . Consent of putative father implied if he fails to file a paternity action within 30 days of notice of adoption proceedings. <i>Burns Ind. Code Ann. 31-19-9-12(1)(B)</i> .	period, father has provided support, mother or state agency files petition after he acknowledges paternity in writing, mother acknowledges paternity in writing, father incompetent at birth, or cannot be served with summons during 2 year period. <i>Burns Ind. Code Ann. IC 31-14-5-3</i> .	in custody of another for at least one year, failure to support the child and communicate significantly with child during that period. <i>Burns Ind. Code Ann. IC 31-19-9-8(1)</i> .		and child is born during the marriage or not later than three hundred (300) days after the marriage is terminated by death, annulment, or dissolution. <i>Burns Ind. Code Ann. IC 31-14-7-1</i> .
<b>Iowa</b>	Father or putative father must consent to termination of parental rights unless he has been found to have abandoned the child. [makes no mention of consent from putative father] <i>Iowa Code §232.116</i> .	Putative father registry. Registration must occur no later than the date of the filing of the petition for termination of parental rights. <i>Iowa Code §144.12A</i> .	Parental rights may be forfeited via abandonment unless father has substantial & continuous or repeated contact with child including support and visits or regular communication. <i>Iowa Code §600A.8</i> .	Registered putative fathers entitled to notice of termination proceedings. <i>Iowa Code §600A.5</i> .	Parental rights must be terminated prior to adoption proceedings except in the case of consensual, step-parent adoption. <i>Iowa Code §600.3</i> .
<b>Kansas (Uniform Parentage Act)</b>	Living parents must consent to adoption absent a contrary court ruling. <i>K.S.A. §59-2129</i> . If a father wishes to assert his parental rights, the court will consider issues of abandonment, fitness, contact and support. <i>§59-2136(h)</i> .	No putative father registry.	Consent and notice rights are affected by abandonment, reasonable efforts to support and communicate with the child, having knowledge of pregnancy yet failing to support mother in 6 months prior to birth, failing to or refusing to assume duties of a parent for 2 years prior to adoption proceedings. <i>K.S.A. §59-2136 (e &amp; h)</i> .	Entitled to notice if mother files to terminate father's parental rights as long as contact requirements are fulfilled, or if presumed or legitimate father, or co-habitated with mother at time of birth or conception. <i>K.S.A. 59-2136(e)</i> .	
	Consent required of	Yes, Kentucky's registry	No specific contact	Parties to adoption are brought	

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<b>Kentucky</b>	adjudicated father, or anyone asserting paternity by affidavit. <i>KRS §199.500</i>	contains information and names of putative fathers to 1) assist with establishing paternity and 2) ease search for absent or custodial parent. Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 205.730	requirements. Same question as Putative Father section.	before the court. A "father" is considered a party if he has asserted paternity or has had paternity asserted by mother in affidavit, or has been married or cohabitated with mother, and/or supported the child. If so, no guardian ad litem need be appointed to represent the child to be adopted. <i>KRS §199.480(1)</i> .	
<b>Louisiana</b>	Adjudicated or alleged father may attempt to oppose adoption within 15 days of notice of surrender of parental rights by mother. <i>La. Ch.C. Art. 1137.</i>	Putative father registry open to all those claiming paternity of a child born out of wedlock, whose paternity has not been adjudicated. [Not mentioned] <i>La. R.S. 9:400.</i>	Consent rights determined at opposition based on support for child & mother before & after birth, frequent & consistent visitation after birth, and willingness & ability to assume legal and physical care of child. Otherwise paternal rights will be terminated. <i>La. Ch.C. Art. 1138.</i>	Alleged or adjudicated father will be notified of mother's petition to surrender child. <i>La. Ch.C. Art. 1132.</i>	

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<b>Maine</b>	Living parents must consent to adoption. Putative father is deprived of consent rights if he fails to respond to notice of adoption by petitioning for parental rights, fails to obtain parental rights, waived notice, or holds no parental rights under laws of a foreign jurisdiction where the adoptee was born. <i>Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. Tit. 18-A §§ 9-302, 9-201(D).</i>	No putative father registry. (Discussion of putative father does not imply registered paternity, but is merely the term used by the State of Maine to refer to the presumed father of a child.)	Petition for parental rights takes into account biological parentage, willingness and ability to protect child from jeopardy, abandonment, and willingness to take responsibility for child. <i>Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. Tit. 18-A § 9-201(I).</i>	Putative father will receive notice of adoption proceeding. To oppose, father must petition for parental rights within twenty days of receiving notice or longer if order by judge. <i>Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. Tit. 18-A §9-201(B) &amp; (D).</i>	
<b>Maryland</b>	Natural father must consent to adoption in most cases. <i>MD. Code Ann., Fam. Law §. §5-311.</i> Natural father is defined as one who was married to natural mother at conception or birth, named on birth certificate unless denies paternity to court's satisfaction, identified as father by natural mother, adjudicated father, or one who has asserted paternity to which natural mother agrees. <i>MD. Code Ann., Fam. Law §5-</i>	No putative father registry.	Failure to meet contact requirements can void consent rights. If relationship is not in best interest of child, consent rights can be revoked. <i>See Washington County Dep't of Social Servs. v. Clark, 461 A. 2d 1077.</i> Abandonment is defined as unknown parents or failure of either parents to claim parentage for two months. Contact requirements outside abandonment include maintained regular contact under a plan to re-unite, support, and regular communication with custodian of child financial support to extent able and regular communication. <i>MD. Code Ann., Fam. Law §5-313.</i>	Notice of adoption proceedings to natural parents. <i>MD. Code Ann., Fam. Law § 5-322</i>	

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	<p>310(a). The court will override consent rights in cases of failure to meet contact requirements. <i>MD. Code Ann., Fam. Law §5-313.</i></p>				
<p><b>Massachusetts</b> (Uniform Parentage Act)</p>	<p>Consent required of lawful parents. In cases of illegitimate child, consent required only of mother and adjudicated or registered as putative father (who has acknowledged paternity). <i>Mass. Ann. Laws Ch 210 §2.</i></p>	<p>Putative father registry. Registration requires signatures of both parents. <i>Mass. Ann. Laws ch. 209 §5.</i> May register by filing declaration seeking to assert responsibilities of fatherhood prior to termination or surrender of mother's parental rights. <i>Mass. Ann. Laws ch. 210 §4A.</i></p>	<p>"Willfully desert[ing] or neglect[ing] to provide proper care and maintenance for one year" prior to petition may void consent rights. <i>Mass. Ann. Laws ch. 210 §3</i> cited by <i>In re Adoption of Minor343 Mass 292, 297 (1961).</i> Moreover, <i>Mass. Ann. Laws ch. 210 §</i> states failure to provide proper care or custody for the child and within reasonable time considering age of child, effects parental rights.</p>	<p>Known father will be notified of adoption, even if he does not have standing for consent. –<i>Mass. Ann. Laws ch. 210 §4.</i> Notice may be forfeited due to failure to meet contact requirements. Consent not required if child is 18 years or older or deemed unnecessary by the court. <i>ch. 210 §3.</i></p>	
<p><b>Michigan</b></p>	<p>Both parents must consent to adoption unless parental rights have been terminated. <i>Mich. Comp. Laws §710.43 (1)(a).</i> When a putative father refuses to consent, the court may take into account the best interests of the child and overrule non-consent including situations in which the father</p>	<p>Before birth of child, a father may file a notice to claim paternity and be known as the presumed father of child, thus entitled to notice of any hearing with child re: identity of father and termination of paternal rights <i>Mich. Comp. Laws § 710.33.</i></p>	<p>Custodial relationship of the child or substantial and regular support and care prior to and after birth considered by the court. If such relationship found to exist 90 days prior to adoption proceedings, father's non-consent usually cannot be overruled except if violates the best interest of child or paternal rights have been revoked. <i>Mich. Comp. Laws §710.39.</i> Moreover parental rights can be revoked if neglect or fail to support or</p>	<p>Registered putative father or unregistered but presumed father shall be given notice of proceedings to identify father and terminate parental rights if mother has released her parental rights. If not notified of release proceedings or if father has filed notice to claim paternity, will receive notice of subsequent adoption proceedings. Putative father not served with notice of intent to release or consent at least thirty days before the</p>	

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	has not established a relationship with the child prior to initiation of adoption proceedings. <i>Mich. Comp. Laws §710.39.</i>		contact child for two years prior to filing petition. Mich. Comp. Laws § 710.51. The courts have determined that the best interest of child includes among other factors: love, affection, and emotional files' provide food, clothing and medical care, and a stable home. <i>In re Barlow 273 N.W. 2d 35 (Mich 1978).</i>	expected date of confinement, should receive notice of adoption proceedings. Also, any male that may be the father, is entitled to notice. <i>Mich. Comp. Laws §710.36</i>	
<b>Minnesota</b>	The putative father has consent rights <i>Minn. Stat. §259.52.</i> Others may have consent rights if they meet the standards for notice. Minn. Stat. §259.49.	Putative father registry. Must register within thirty days of birth of child. <i>Minn. Stat. §257.74.</i>	Failure to comply with duties of parent/child relationship is grounds for termination of that relationship without consent. Such failure includes provision of support, shelter, education, and other basic care. <i>Minn Stat. §260C.301(b).</i>	Notice to putative fathers, who upon notice of proceeding may initiate or deny paternity within thirty days. Minn. Stat. § 259.52. Also notice to father who have not registered if appears in birth certificate, supported child, married or cohabitated with mother, is adjudicated father, initiated paternity action within thirty days of birth, or with the mother, signed a declaration or recognition of paternity. <i>Minn Stat. §259.49.</i>	
<b>Mississippi</b>	Natural parents must consent to adoption. However, unwed father is not considered a parent and thus has no consent rights. <i>Miss. Code Ann. §93-17-5.</i> Father of child born out of wedlock, father has consent rights if he has showed a full	No putative father registry.	It must be proven that the alleged father is full committed to the responsibilities of parenthood either by: (a) Providing financial support, "including, but not limited to, the payment of consistent support to the mother during her pregnancy, contributions to the payment of the medical expenses of pregnancy and birth, and contributions of consistent	Notice to those whose consent is required. <i>Miss. Code Ann. §93-17-5.</i>	

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	commitment to the responsibilities of parenthood within thirty days of birth of child. <i>Miss. Code Ann. § 93-17-5 (3)</i> .		support of the child after birth; that he frequently and consistently visited the child after birth; and that he is now willing and able to assume legal and physical care of the child; or (b) was willing to provide such support and to visit the child and that he made reasonable attempts to manifest such a parental commitment, but was thwarted in his efforts by the mother or her agents, and that he is now willing and able to assume legal and physical care of the child." If the father has met his parental responsibilities, he then may either object or consent to adoption. However if the father was unable to demonstrate that he has met his parental responsibilities, he will have no right to object to an adoption. <i>Miss Code Ann. § 193-17-6</i> .  Attempts to establish a relationship, including filing a paternity action may cause a court to grant notice and consent rights. <i>Smith v. Malouf, 722 So. 2d 490 (Miss. 1998)</i> .		
<b>Missouri</b>	Consent of presumed father required if he has filed paternity action within fifteen	Putative father registry for adjudicated fathers and those who file notice of an intent to claim	Willful and substantial abandonment or failure to provide necessary care and protection for sixty days if the	Written consent of putative fathers who have filed a notice of intent to claim paternity or acknowledgement of paternity,	

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	<p>days of birth or registered as putative father within fifteen days of birth. <i>Mo. Rev. Stat. §453.030.</i> No consent rights if not presumed father and no assertion of paternity, or if unknown at time of adoption proceedings. <i>Mo. Rev. Stat. §453.040.</i></p>	<p>paternity. <i>Mo. Rev. Stat. §192.016.1.</i></p>	<p>child is less than one year old or six months thereafter voids consent rights. <i>Mo. Rev. Stat. §453.040.</i></p>	<p>and those who have filed paternity action within fifteen days of birth entitled to notice. <i>Mo. Rev. Stat. § 453.030.3(2)(c)</i></p>	
<b>MONTANA</b>	<p>Father has consent rights if the husband of the child's mother or if rights have been established by the Courts. <i>Mont. Code Ann. § 42-2-301.</i> Consent is not required if father is unfit by the court, or if father denies paternity or interest in child. <i>Mont. Code Ann. § 42-2-302.</i></p>	<p>Montana offers a putative father registry. Father must register with the Putative Father registry, in order to receive notice of proceedings which could terminate parental rights. Father must register within seventy-two hours of the birth of the child. <i>Mont. Code Ann. § 42-2-206</i></p>	<p>Playing a role in the life of a child is a requirement for establishing paternal rights. In order to avoid having his parental rights revoked, father must show he has met the minimum criteria of <i>Mont. Code Ann. § 42-2-610.</i> <i>Mont. Code Ann. § 42-2-208.</i> <i>Mont. Code Ann. § 42-2-610</i> provides that the father must demonstrate: 1) that he has timely established the relationship; 2) a commitment to the responsibilities of parenthood by providing financial support in addition to maintaining regular contact with the child and visiting the child monthly; 3) a desire to obtain legal and/or physical custody of the child. If the child is under</p>	<p>Registered putative father is entitled to notice of proceeding. <i>Mont. Code Ann. § 42-2-206</i></p>	

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			six months of age, father must show in addition to the above listed criteria, that he provided funds to support the mother during her pregnancy. Mont. Code Ann. § 42-2-610		
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<b>NEBRASKA</b>	Father's consent to adoption not required if father fails to timely file a notice of intent to claim paternity with the biological father registry. <i>Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-104.04</i> . However, "[w]henver a child is born out of wedlock . . . the agency or attorney contacted [by the biological mother] shall . . . attempt to inform the biological father of his right to execute a relinquishment and consent to adoption . . ." <i>Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-104.08</i> . Failure to do so could threaten the legal validity of any adoptive placement of the child. <i>Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-104.10</i> . If a notice of intent to claim paternity is	Nebraska has a "Biological Father Registry" established by the Department of Health and Human Services Finance and Support. <i>Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-104.01(1)</i> . A person claiming to be the father of a child and who intends to claim paternity shall file, with the biological father registry maintained by the Department of Health and Human Services Finance and Support, a notice of intent to claim paternity within five business days after the birth of the child, or within five business days after receipt the notice regarding adoption-related proceedings, whichever is later, <i>Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-104.02</i> .	The court shall determine that the biological father's consent is not required for a valid adoption of the child upon a finding of one or more of the following: (1) The father abandoned or neglected the child after having knowledge of the child's birth; (2) The father is not a fit, proper, and suitable custodial parent for the child; (3) The father had knowledge of the child's birth and failed to provide reasonable financial support for the mother or child; (4) The father abandoned the mother without reasonable cause and with knowledge of the pregnancy; (5) The father had knowledge of the pregnancy and failed to provide reasonable support for the mother during the pregnancy; . . . (7) Notice was provided and the father failed to timely file an intent to claim paternity; (8) The father failed to timely file a petition to adjudicate his claim of paternity. <i>Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-104.22</i>	The following have the right to receive notice regarding executing a relinquishment and consenting to adoption or denying paternity and waiving of rights: any person adjudicated to be the biological father of the child; any person who has filed a paternity claim for notification purposes or a notice of intent to claim paternity; any person who is recorded on the child's birth certificate as the child's father; any person who might be the biological father of the child who was openly living with the child's biological mother within the twelve months prior to the birth of the child; any person who has been identified as the biological father or possible biological father of the child; any person who was married to the child's biological mother within six months prior to the birth of the child and prior to the execution of the relinquishment; and any other person who the agency or	
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	<p>timely filed with the biological father registry, either the claimant-father, the mother, or her agent specifically designated in writing shall, within thirty days after filing the notice, file a petition for an adjudication of the claim of paternity. If such a petition is not filed within thirty days after filing the notice, the claimant-father's consent to adoption of the child shall not be required, he is not entitled to any further notice, and any alleged parental rights of the claimant-father shall not be recognized thereafter in any court. <i>Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-104.05.</i></p>		<p><i>43-104.22</i></p>	<p>attorney representing the biological mother may have reason to believe may be the biological father of the child. <i>Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-104.12.</i></p>	
	<p>Written consent to the proposed adoption is required from both parents if both are living. <i>Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann § 127.040.</i> Consent of a parent to an adoption shall not be necessary where parental rights</p>	<p>No putative father registry. A man is presumed to be the natural father of a child if: (a) He and the child's natural mother are or have been married to each other and the child is born during the marriage, or within 285 days after the</p>	<p>The primary consideration in any proceeding to terminate parental rights must be whether the best interests of the child will be served by the termination. An order of the court for termination of parental rights include a finding that: the best interests of the child would be served</p>	<p>Notice of the proceeding must be given to every person identified as the natural father or a possible natural father. <i>Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 128.150.</i></p>	

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NEVADA	<p>have been terminated by an order of a court of competent jurisdiction. <i>Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 127.090.</i> If a mother relinquishes or proposes to relinquish for adoption a child who has a presumed father or a father whose relationship to the child has been determined by a court and the father has not consented to the adoption of the child or relinquished the child for adoption, a proceeding must be brought and a determination made of whether a parent and child relationship exists and if so, if it should be terminated. <i>Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 128.150.</i></p>	<p>marriage is terminated, (b) He and the child's natural mother were cohabiting for at least 6 months before the period of conception and continued to cohabit through the period of conception, (c) Before the child's birth, he and the child's natural mother have attempted to marry each other, (d) While the child is under the age of majority, he receives the child into his home and openly holds out the child as his natural child, (e) Blood tests or tests for genetic identification show a probability of 99 percent or more that he is the father. <i>Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 126.051.</i></p>	<p>by the termination of parental rights; and the conduct of the parent or parents demonstrated at least one of the following: (a) Abandonment of the child; (b) Neglect of the child; (c) Unfitness of the parent; (d) Failure of parental adjustment; (e) Risk of serious physical, mental or emotional injury to the child if he were returned to, or remains in, the home of his parent or parents; (f) Only token efforts by the parent or parents: (1) To support or communicate with the child; (2) To prevent neglect of the child; (3) To avoid being an unfit parent; or (4) To eliminate the risk of serious physical, mental or emotional injury to the child; or (g) With respect to termination of the parental rights of one parent, the abandonment by that parent. <i>Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 128.105.</i> "Abandonment of a child" means any conduct of one or both parents of a child which evidences a settled purpose on the part of one or both parents to forego all parental custody and relinquish all claims to the child. <i>Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 128.012.</i> The typical kinds of conduct which constitute abandonment are the withholding of parental</p>		
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			presence, love, care, filial affection and support and maintenance. The conduct must be intentional and must show a settled purpose to relinquish all parental rights in the child. <i>Sernaker v. Ehrlich</i> , 86 Nev. 277, 468 P.2d 5 (1970).		
NEW HAMPSHIRE	Consent to any proposed adoption must be obtained from the legal father and the natural father, provided that he was found to be entitled to notice and found to be entitled to the right to consent. <i>R.S.A. § 170-B:5</i> . Consent to adoption is not required of the unwed father who is not entitled to notice or the right to consent or a parent whose parental rights have been terminated by order of the court. <i>R.S.A. § 170-B:6</i> .	New Hampshire does not have a putative father registry. Paternity shall be established upon the filing of either a petition to the court and the granting of such petition by the court or an affidavit of paternity. The affidavit of paternity shall have the legal effect of establishing paternity without requiring further action. <i>R.S.A. § 168-A:2</i> . The putative father of any child born out of wedlock may apply to the court by a written petition praying that such child be declared legitimate. The effect of legitimation shall be to impose upon the father all the obligations which fathers owe to their lawful issue. <i>R.S.A. § 460:29</i> . A person who claims to be the father and who has filed notice of his claim of paternity with the office of child support enforcement may file a	The father of a child which is or may be born of unwed parents is liable to the same extent as the father of a child born in wedlock, whether or not the child is born alive, for the reasonable expense of the mother's pregnancy and confinement and for the education and necessary support of the child. A child born of unwed parents includes a child born to a married woman by a man other than her husband. <i>R.S.A. § 168-A:1</i> . Parental rights may be terminated if the parent has abandoned the child. It shall be presumed that the parent intends to abandon the child who has been left by his parent without provision for his identification or who has been left by his parent in the care and custody of another without any provision for his support, or without communication from such parent for a period of 6 months. If in the opinion of the court the evidence	The following persons shall be given notice by the court and shall have the right to request a hearing to prove paternity: a person named by the natural mother in an affidavit filed with the court; the natural or legal father, if his identity is known; a person who claims to be the father and who has filed notice of his claim of paternity with the office of child support enforcement; a person who is openly living with the child or the child's mother and providing financial support to the mother or child and who is holding himself out to be the child's father. Any person entitled to notice shall be provided 30 days from the date of notice to request a hearing at which he shall have the burden of proving that he is the father of the child. The failure to request such hearing within 30 days from the date of notice shall result in a forfeiture of all parental rights and any right to notice of any	

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		<p>enforcement may file a notice form indicating the claimant's willingness and intent to support the child to the best of his ability. The notice form may be filed prior to the birth of the child but must be filed prior to the mother's rights being voluntarily relinquished or involuntarily terminated, or the mother consenting to an adoption. Failure to file the notice prior to this time shall bar the alleged father from thereafter bringing an action to establish his paternity of the child, and shall constitute an abandonment of said child and a waiver of any right to a notice of hearing in any adoption proceeding concerning the child. <i>R.S.A. § 170-B:5-a.</i></p>	<p>the court the evidence indicates that such parent has made only minimal efforts to support or communicate with the child, the court may declare the child to be abandoned. <i>R.S.A. § 170-C:5.</i></p>	<p>adoption proceedings concerning the child. <i>R.S.A. § 170-B:5-a.</i> After the filing of a petition to adopt a minor, notice shall be given by the court to the parents of the child, provided that the parent-child relationship has not been terminated by court action or voluntary relinquishment. The hearing shall take place no sooner than 7 days after service of notice. <i>R.S.A. § 170-B:13.</i></p>	
NEW MEXICO	<p>Consent of presumed father and acknowledged father required for adoption. <i>N.M. Stat. Ann. §32A-5-17.</i> Consent not required if parental rights have been terminated by law, father has failed to respond to notice of adoption</p>	<p>Putative father registry. <i>N.M. Stat. Ann. § 32A-5-20.</i> Must register to invoke consent rights in adoption proceeding. <i>N.M. Stat. Ann. § 32A-5-19.</i> A man is presumed to be the natural father of a child if he is or has been married to the child's mother or has attempted to marry the mother, he</p>	<p>Yes, if after parent is served with notice and remains unresponsive, then parental rights are considered relinquished or consent to adoption given, if for example, the parent left child without provisions of support and communication for a period of three-months if child is under the age of six, and six months if the child is over the age of</p>	<p>Father whose consent to adoption is required is entitled to notice of petition for adoption. Father must be an acknowledged father to receive notice. <i>N.M. Stat. Ann. § 32A-5-27. The alleged father, and parents whose rights are relinquished or terminated, shall not be served with notice. N.M. Stat. Ann. § 32A-5-27.. Although Statute</i></p>	

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	proceeding, or alleged father who has failed to register with the putative father registry within ten days of the child's birth and is not otherwise the acknowledged father, N.M. Stat. Ann. §32A-5-19, by having his name on birth certificate, held out the child as his own, or supported the child pursuant to court order. <i>N.M. Stat. Ann. § 40-11-5 (A)</i> .	has acknowledged his paternity in writing filed with bureau of vital statistics, or he openly holds child out as his own and has established a personal, financial or custodial relationship with the child. <i>N.M. Stat. Ann. § 40-11-5</i> .	six years. <i>N.M. Stat. Ann. § 32A-5-18</i> . Moreover the Courts have recognized Abandonment of parental rights when a parent shows conscious disregard of their parental duties which in turn leads to a destructive relation between the parent and child-failure to support is a factor toward establishing abandonment, but needs to be linked to other circumstances. <i>In re Adoption of Doe, 676 P.2d 1329, 1332 (N.M. 1984)</i> .	<i>32A-5-20, which concerns Putative Fathers, does not directly address whether the Putative Father is entitled to notice, Lexis-Nexis references a judicial decision which states that the putative Father is not entitled to notice of adoption proceeding and consent is not required for adoptions. See Ex parte Wallace 190 P. 1020 (N.M. 1920)</i> . Father has 20 days after receiving notice to contest the adoption. <i>N.M. Stat. Ann § 32A-5-27</i> .	
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>	Father's consent required for adoption if he establishes paternity by marrying or being married to the mother when the child was born, by trying to marry the mother, by legitimating the child, by acknowledging his paternity and supporting the child and attempting to visit or communicate with the mother and/or child. <i>N.C. Gen. Stat. §48-3-601</i> . Consent not required if parental rights have	Putative father of any child born out of wedlock may apply by written petition filed in a special proceeding for such child to be declared legitimate. <i>N.C. Gen. Stat. § 49-10</i> . But legitimization does not invalidate sufficiency of consent of mother alone, nor make necessary the consent of father to adoption if consent not required under 48-3-603 <i>N.C. Gen. Stat. § 49-13.1(2003)</i> . In other words, if child is not legitimized prior to signing of adoption consent, then the mother's	If it is judicially determined that the father has abandoned the child, then consent is not required. <i>N.C. Gen. Stat § 48-3-603 (a)(2); Truelove v. Parker, 132 S.E. 295 (1926); Hicks v. Russell, 123 S.E. 2d 214 (1961)</i> . Case law may still be applicable to father's proof of paternity: Abandonment imports any willful or intentional conduct which evinces the purpose to forego all parental duties; mere failure to contribute to support of child does not constitute abandonment but failure to contribute presence and affection does. <i>Pratt v. Bishop, 126 S.E.2d 597(1962)</i> .	<u>Pre-birth consent</u> : Anytime after six months from the date of conception (and up to three months after birth) biological mother, agency, or adoptive parents chosen by the biological mother may file a special proceeding with the clerk requesting the court to determine whether consent of the biological father is required. The biological father shall be served with notice of the intent of the biological mother to place the child for adoption, allowing the biological father fifteen days after service to assert a claim that his consent is required. If consent not required, no notice	

State	Consent: Does father have consent rights?	Putative Father: Does state have a putative father registry? If so, who qualifies for it?	Contact: Is playing a role in child's life a requirement for establishing paternal rights? How much of a role? Time frame?	Notice Requirement: Does father have a right to notice of adoption?	Miscellaneous
	<p>been terminated, father denies paternity or disclaims interest in the child, or father fails to respond to notice of adoption proceeding within thirty days of receiving notice. <i>N.C. Gen. Stat. § 48-3-603.</i></p>	<p>consent prevails. <i>In re Baby John Doe, 181 S.E. 2d 760, 762 (N.C. 1971).</i></p>		<p>of adoption. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 48-2-206. <u>After the birth</u> of the child, notice needs to be given to the father who has: (1) established paternity by marrying or being married to the mother when the child was born, (2) tried to marry the mother, (3) legitimated the child, (4) acknowledged his paternity and supporting the child and attempting to visit or communicate with the mother and/or child. <i>N.C. Gen. Stat. §48-3-601.</i></p>	
<b>NORTH DAKOTA</b>	<p>Father's consent to adoption only required if father is the presumed father, unless otherwise proved by the court, or has legitimated the child. <i>N.D. Cent. Code §14-15-05 (1)(b)</i>. Consent not required if father has abandoned child. <i>N.D. Cent. Code § 14-15-06(1)(a)</i>.</p>	<p>No putative father registry. Paternity can be presumed if certain factors exist. <i>N.D. Cent. Code § 14-17-04.</i></p>	<p>Father's consent to adoption not required if for a period of at least one year, he has failed to significantly communicate with the child or provide for the care and support of the child. <i>N. D. Cent. Code § 14-15-06(1)(b)</i>. In determining whether abandonment has taken place, the court looks to such factors as the parent's contact and communication with the child, the parent's love care and affection toward the child, and the parent's acceptance of parental obligations <i>In re Adoption of A.M.B., 514 N.W.2d 670 (N.D. 1994)</i></p>	<p>Notice of hearing on petition for adoption not required to be given to father whose consent is not required. <i>N.D. Cent. Code § 14-15-06</i>. Notice must be given to presumed father, father whose relationship with the child has been determined by a court, or father who has legitimated child. <i>N.D. Cent. Code § 14-17-23.</i></p>	
	<p>Father's consent to adoption required if (i) father is presumed to be the father by being married to</p>	<p>Ohio has a putative father registry. Must register before or within thirty days after birth of child. <i>Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §</i></p>	<p>Putative father's consent to adoption not required if father failed to communicate with the child, failed to provide maintenance and support, or</p>	<p>Father not entitled to notice if his consent to adoption is not required. <i>Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3107.11.</i></p>	

State	Consent: Does father have consent rights?	Putative Father: Does state have a putative father registry? If so, who qualifies for it?	Contact: Is playing a role in child's life a requirement for establishing paternal rights? How much of a role? Time frame?	Notice Requirement: Does father have a right to notice of adoption?	Miscellaneous
<b>OHIO</b>	mother when child was conceived, by court determining he has a parent and child relationship with the child, by acknowledging paternity or (ii) father is determined to be the putative father. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3107.07.	3107.062. Putative father's consent to adoption not required if father failed to register as the minor's father with the putative father registry. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3107.07(B)(1).	has abandoned the child or abandoned the mother during pregnancy. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3107.07.		
<b>OKLAHOMA</b>	Fathers consent to adoption required, unless father waives rights. 10 Okla. Stat. § 7505-3.1.	Putative father registry includes names of fathers who are not sure if they are the father of a minor, fathers who intend to file claim for paternity, fathers who acknowledge paternity and fathers who deny paternity. 10 Okla. Stat. § 7503-3.1.	Father's consent not required if father fails to exercise parental duties towards the child, including willfully failing, refusing, or neglecting to contribute to the support of the child or support of mother during pregnancy, failing to maintain a significant relationship with minor through visitation and communication. 10 Okla. Stat. § 7505-4.2.	Putative father must be notified of Plan For Adoption and notice includes form for filing with the paternity registry. If form is not returned to registry within thirty days, constitutes waiver of right to receive further notice and a denial of interest in the minor such that father's consent to adoption will not be required. 10 Okla. Stat. § 7503-3.1(A)(3)(a).	

State	Consent: Does father have consent rights?	Putative Father: Does state have a putative father registry? If so, who qualifies for it?	Contact: Is playing a role in child's life a requirement for establishing paternal rights? How much of a role? Time frame?	Notice Requirement: Does father have a right to notice of adoption?	Miscellaneous
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<p><b>OREGON</b></p>	<p>Father has right to consent to adoption unless he has not acknowledged paternity or asserted his rights in filiation proceedings <i>Or. Rev. Stat. §109.070</i>. If after a hearing, the court "finds that the parent has willfully deserted the child or neglected [the child] without just and sufficient cause to provide proper care and maintenance for the child for one year next preceding the filing of the petition for adoption, the consent of such parent at the discretion of the court is not required and, if the court determines that such consent is not required, the court may proceed regardless of the objection of such parent." When deciding upon willful desertion and neglect, the courts may disregard incidental visitations, communication, and contributions; and</p>	<p>Putative father acknowledges paternity by filing with state a voluntary acknowledgement of paternity. <i>Or. Rev. Stat. § 109.070(e)</i>.</p>	<p>Proof of father's non-support and failure to visit was insufficient to allow adoption of child without father's consent. (<i>Mahoney v. Linder, 514 P.2d 901</i>). Willful neglect does not require proof that parent intended to abandon all parental rights, but is evaluated by presence or absence of minimal expressions of concern, ordinarily measured in terms of money payments and personal contact. (<i>Chaffin v. Palumbo, 781 P.2d 1247</i>).</p>	<p>Putative father has right to receive reasonable notice of adoption proceeding if he has filed acknowledgment of paternity or has filed a notice of filiation proceedings, or if child resided with father for sixty days prior to the proceeding or if father contributed to the support of the child. <i>Or. Rev. Stat. § 109.096; Or. Rev. Stat. §109.070</i>. If putative father fails to initiate parent-child relationship, he has no right to notice. (<i>P &amp; P v. Children's Services Division, 673 P.2d 864</i>).</p>	
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State	Consent: Does father have consent rights?	Putative Father: Does state have a putative father registry? If so, who qualifies for it?	Contact: Is playing a role in child's life a requirement for establishing paternal rights? How much of a role? Time frame?	Notice Requirement: Does father have a right to notice of adoption?	Miscellaneous
	whether the custodial parent attempted without good cause to impede contact between the child and "the parent whose parental rights would be terminated in an action under this section." <i>Or. Rev. Stat. § 109.324.</i>				
<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>	Consent to an adoption shall be required of the parents or surviving parent of an adoptee who has not reached the age of eighteen years. No consent shall be valid if it was executed prior to or within seventy-two hours after the birth of the child. A putative father may execute a consent at any time after receiving notice of the expected or actual birth of the child. Any consent given outside Pennsylvania shall be valid for purposes of this section if it was given in accordance with	"The father of a child born to an unmarried woman may file with the Department of Public Welfare an acknowledgment of paternity of the child which shall include the consent of the mother of the child." <i>23 Pa.C.S. § 5103 (a)</i> . "In such case, the father shall have all the rights and duties as to the child which he would have had if he had been married to the mother at the time of the birth of the child, and the child shall have all the rights and duties as to the father which the child would have had if the father had been married to the mother at the time of birth." <i>23 Pa.C.S. § 5703</i>	"The rights of a parent in regard to a child may be terminated after a petition filed on any of the following grounds: (1) The parent by conduct continuing for a period of at least six months immediately preceding the filing of the petition either has evidenced a settled purpose of relinquishing parental claim to a child or has refused or failed to perform parental duties. (2) The repeated and continued incapacity, abuse, neglect or refusal of the parent has caused the child to be without essential parental care, control or subsistence necessary for his physical or mental well-being and the conditions and causes of the incapacity, abuse, neglect or refusal cannot or will not be remedied by the parent. (3) The parent is	"At least ten days notice of the hearing on an adoption petition shall be given to the petitioner, and a copy of the notice shall be given to the other parent, to the putative father whose parental rights could be terminated... and to the parents or guardian of a petitioner who has not reached 18 years of age." <i>23 Pa. C.S. § 2503(b)(1)</i> . "The copy of the notice which is given to the putative father shall state that his rights may also be subject to termination... if he fails to file either an acknowledgment of paternity... or claim of paternity pursuant and fails to either appear at the hearing for the purpose of objecting to the termination of his rights or file a written objection to such termination with the court prior to the hearing." <i>23</i>	

State	Consent: Does father have consent rights?	Putative Father: Does state have a putative father registry? If so, who qualifies for it?	Contact: Is playing a role in child's life a requirement for establishing paternal rights? How much of a role? Time frame?	Notice Requirement: Does father have a right to notice of adoption?	Miscellaneous
	<p>the laws of the jurisdiction where it was executed. 23 Pa.C.S. § 2711.</p>	<p>(a). "If the mother of the child fails or refuses to join in the acknowledgment of paternity..., the Department of Public Welfare shall index it as a claim of paternity. The filing and indexing of a claim of paternity shall not confer upon the putative father any rights as to the child except that the putative father shall be entitled to notice of any proceeding brought to terminate any parental rights as to the child." 23 Pa.C.S. § 5103(b).</p>	<p>the presumptive but not the natural father of the child." 23 Pa.C.S. § 2511 (a) (1)-(3). "In the case of a newborn child, the parent knows or has reason to know of the child's birth, does not reside with the child, has not married the child's other parent, has failed for a period of four months immediately preceding the filing of the petition to make reasonable efforts to maintain contact with the child and has failed during the same four-month period to provide substantial financial support for the child." 23 Pa.C.S. § 2511(a)(6). "The court in terminating the rights of a parent shall give primary consideration to the developmental, physical and emotional needs and welfare of the child. The rights of a parent shall not be terminated solely on the basis of environmental factors such as inadequate housing, furnishings, income, clothing and medical care if found to be beyond the control of the parent. With Respect to any petition filed pursuant to subsection (a)(1),(6) or (8), the court shall not consider any efforts by the parent to remedy the conditions described</p>	<p>Pa.C.S. §2503(b)(3). "If a putative father will not file a petition to voluntarily relinquish his parental rights..., has been given notice of the hearing being held pursuant to this section and fails to either appear at that hearing for the purpose of objecting to termination of his parental rights or file a written objection to such termination with the court prior to the hearing and has not filed an acknowledgment of paternity or claim of paternity..., the court may enter a decree terminating the parental rights of the putative father." 23 Pa.C.S. § 2503(d).</p>	

State	Consent: Does father have consent rights?	Putative Father: Does state have a putative father registry? If so, who qualifies for it?	Contact: Is playing a role in child's life a requirement for establishing paternal rights? How much of a role? Time frame?	Notice Requirement: Does father have a right to notice of adoption?	Miscellaneous
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			herein which are first initiated subsequent to the giving of notice of the filing of the petition." <i>23 Pa.C.S. § 2511(b)</i> .		
<b>RHODE ISLAND</b>	Adoption without non-custodial parent's consent may be granted, if petitioners prove by clear and convincing evidence that this parent's parental rights should be terminated. R.I. Gen Laws § 15-7-5. Parental rights can be terminated if: the parent has willfully neglected to provide proper care and maintenance for the child for a period of at least one year where financially able to do so, the parent is unfit, or the parent has abandoned or deserted the child. R.I. Gen Laws § 15-7-7(a). Parent of child can petition the court fifteen days after birth of child to terminate the other parent's right to consent to adoption. R.I. Gen Laws § 15-	No putative father registry.	"A lack of communication or contact with the child for at least a six (6) month period shall constitute prima facie evidence of abandonment or desertion." R.I. Gen Laws § 15-7-7(a)(4). Abandonment can be found where substantial periods elapsed during which a father had no contact with his children, since the abandonment provision does not include the element of willfulness to show such abandonment. <i>In re Craig G., 765 A.2d 1200 (R.I. 2001)</i> .	Natural father entitled to notice of adoption proceeding. Failure to appear constitutes waiver of right to consent and allows termination of parental rights. R.I. Gen Laws § 15-7-26.	

State	Consent: Does father have consent rights?	Putative Father: Does state have a putative father registry? If so, who qualifies for it?	Contact: Is playing a role in child's life a requirement for establishing paternal rights? How much of a role? Time frame?	Notice Requirement: Does father have a right to notice of adoption?	Miscellaneous
	7-6.				
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b>	Father's consent to adoption required only if father has maintained substantial and continuous or repeated contact with the child. <i>S.C. Code Ann. § 20-7-1690 (A)(4).</i>	No registry.	Father only has consent rights if father supports child, visits child at least monthly, and communicates with the child. Father of child who lived with the child for six months before placement of child for adoption and held himself out as father by maintaining substantial and continuous contact and must be given consent to adoption. <i>S.C. Code Ann. § 20-7-1690 (A)(4)-(5).</i>	Father has right to notice of adoption proceeding even if his consent is not required for the adoption. <i>S.C. Code Ann. § 20-7-1734(B).</i> Failure to file a response within thirty days of receiving notice constitutes consent to adoption. <i>S.C. Code Ann. § 20-7-1734(E)(3).</i>	
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA</b>	Father of illegitimate child has no right to consent to adoption unless he is known and identified by the mother or has acknowledged the child as his own by affirmatively asserting paternity. <i>S.D. Codified Laws § 25-6-1.1.</i>	No registry. Father must file paternity action within sixty days of child's birth. <i>S.D. Codified Laws § 25-6-1.1.</i>	Father of an illegitimate child legitimates child by publicly acknowledging it as his own, receiving it into his family and otherwise treating it as if it were a legitimate child sixty days after the birth of child. <i>S.D. Codified Laws § 25-6-1.</i>	Father of illegitimate child not entitled to notice of adoption proceeding unless he is known and identified by the mother or he has acknowledged the child as his own by affirmatively asserting paternity within sixty days after the birth of the child. <i>S.D. Codified Laws § 25-6-1.1.</i>	

State	Consent: Does father have consent rights?	Putative Father: Does state have a putative father registry? If so, who qualifies for it?	Contact: Is playing a role in child's life a requirement for establishing paternal rights? How much of a role? Time frame?	Notice Requirement: Does father have a right to notice of adoption?	Miscellaneous
TENNESSEE	Unless rights are terminated by court, the legal and biological fathers have rights to consent to adoption. If putative father has filed to establish paternity, his paternal rights must be established by court before the adoption proceeding can continue. <i>Tenn. Code Ann. § 36-1-117.</i>	Putative father registry. Father must file petition to establish paternity at any time prior to or within thirty days after the birth of the child. <i>Tenn. Code Ann. § 36-1-117.</i>	Paternal rights can be terminated if in best interest of child. Also paternal rights can be terminated if parent has not paid a reasonable share of child's expense, regular child support payments, regularly visits with child, and has not demonstrated an ability and willingness to assume legal or physical custody. Also rights can be revoked if failed to establish paternity within thirty days after notice of alleged paternity by mother. <i>Tenn. Code Ann. § 36-1-113</i>	Legal and biological fathers along with, Fathers contained in putative father registry shall be given notice of adoption proceedings. <i>Tenn. Code Ann. § 36-1-117 and § 36-2-318.</i>	
TEXAS	Father's consent to adoption not required where father had never had family relationship with child and had only seen child once and where adoption was in child's best interest. (In Interest of T.E.T., 603 S.W.2d 793 (1980)).	In order for a putative father to register, he must have an established relationship under law and commences with process to register before rights are terminated, which is up to 31 days after the birth of child (otherwise paternal rights are terminated). <i>Tex. Fam. Code Ann. § 160.402</i>	Father's consent is not required if he does not provide support. <i>See ex.: Cawley v. Allums, 511 S.W. 2d 402 (1972).</i> Father will lose rights if he does not express intent, has left child for three months without support, not providing care of child, and if relationship is not in the best interest of the child. <i>Tex. Fam. Code Ann. § 161.001</i>	Registered fathers must be given notice of adoption proceeding. <i>Tex. Fam Code Ann. § 160.403.</i> Father is entitled to notice if has an established relationship with child. <i>Tex. Fam. Code Ann. § 160.402</i>  In <i>Roger v. Lowry, 546 S.W.2d 881, 884 (Tex. App.--Houston [1st Dist.] 1977, orig. proceeding)</i> , the court held that: "[A] child's biological father has such a substantial interest in the adoption proceeding that due process requires he be afforded notice and an opportunity to be heard."	

State	Consent: Does father have consent rights?	Putative Father: Does state have a putative father registry? If so, who qualifies for it?	Contact: Is playing a role in child's life a requirement for establishing paternal rights? How much of a role? Time frame?	Notice Requirement: Does father have a right to notice of adoption?	Miscellaneous
UTAH	Child may be adopted without father's consent unless he manifests "prompt and full commitment to his parental responsibilities and establishes paternity." <i>Utah Code Ann § 78-30-4.12.</i>	Father may initiate proceedings to establish paternity and file notice of proceeding with the state; action may be filed prior to birth. <i>Utah Code Ann § 78-30-4.13-4.14.</i>	Unmarried biological father must demonstrate "a timely and full commitment to parenthood, both during pregnancy and after child's birth, by providing medical care and financial support and by establishing legal paternity." <i>Utah Code Ann § 78-30-4.12.</i> If child is older than six months, father must show regular visits and communication with child. <i>Utah Code Ann § 78-30-4.14.</i>	Father is deemed to be on notice of pregnancy and adoption proceeding by virtue of the fact that he engaged in sex with a woman. Father only entitled to notice of adoption proceeding if he has initiated a paternity proceeding and filed notice of that action within the state. Notice must be given at least thirty days before the final hearing. <i>Utah Code Ann § 78-30-4.13.</i>	
VERMONT	Unless terminated by court order or written notarized statement by male, consent required of biological father or male acknowledging paternity, and who have developed personal and financial commitment and relationship with child. <i>VT. Stat. Ann. Tit. 15A § 2-401.</i>	Father may file in the probate court a notice of intent to retain parental rights, which is forwarded to the probate court in the district of Chittenden, a central repository. VT. Stat. Ann. Tit 15A § 1-110.	Financial and personal contact important to establish paternal rights. <u>If child is over six months</u> , father must provide reasonable and consistent child support, regular communication, and show ability and willingness to become father. <u>If child is under six months</u> , father must provide reasonable prenatal, natal and postnatal (including expenses), also consistent payments, visits and communication, and show ability and willingness to become father. <i>Vt. Stat. Ann. Tit. 15 § 3-504</i>	Unless terminated by court order or written notarized statement by male ( <i>VT. Stat. Ann. Tit 15A § 2-401</i> ), notice must be given to any person alleging to be the father, and father has twenty days to respond. <i>VT. Stat. Ann. Tit 15A §§ 3-403 and 3-503.</i> Moreover if at anytime during an adoption proceeding it becomes evident that a father was not given notice- it must be given. <i>VT. Stat. Ann. Tit 15A § 3-401.</i>	
VIRGINIA	"Consent of birth father not required for adoption if father's identity is not reasonably ascertainable or if father is given	No registry, but father can voluntarily acknowledge orally and in writing, or take a paternity test. Va. Code Ann. § 20-49.1	"In determining whether the valid consent of any person whose consent is required is withheld contrary to the best interests of the child, or is unobtainable, the [court]shall consider whether	If father's identity is reasonably ascertainable, he must be given notice must object o proceeding within twenty-one days of receiving notice. <i>VA Code Ann § 63.2-1202.</i>	

State	Consent: Does father have consent rights?	Putative Father: Does state have a putative father registry? If so, who qualifies for it?	Contact: Is playing a role in child's life a requirement for establishing paternal rights? How much of a role? Time frame?	Notice Requirement: Does father have a right to notice of adoption?	Miscellaneous
	<p>notice" of an adoption proceeding and fails to object within twenty-one days. Failure to appear at the consent hearing constitutes waiver of right to object to adoption. Va. Code Ann. § 63.2-1202. Affidavit of mother that father's identity is unknown is sufficient evidence. <i>VA ST § 63.1-219.10</i>. "If, after consideration of the evidence, the court finds that the valid consent of any person or agency whose consent is required is withheld contrary to the best interests of the child, or unobtainable the court may grant the petition without such consent." <i>Va. Code Ann. § 63.2-1203</i>.</p>		<p>the failure to grant the petition pending before it would be detrimental to the child. In determining whether the failure to grant the petition would be detrimental to the child, the [court] shall consider all relevant factors, including the birth parent(s)' efforts to obtain or maintain legal and physical custody of the child; whether the birth parent(s)' efforts to assert parental rights were thwarted by other people; the birth parent(s)' ability to care for the child; the age of the child; the quality of any previous relationship between the birth parent(s) and the child and between the birth parent(s) and any other minor children; the duration and suitability of the child's present custodial environment; and the effect of a change of physical custody on the child." <i>VA Code Ann § 63.2-12053</i>.</p>		

State	Consent: Does father have consent rights?	Putative Father: Does state have a putative father registry? If so, who qualifies for it?	Contact: Is playing a role in child's life a requirement for establishing paternal rights? How much of a role? Time frame?	Notice Requirement: Does father have a right to notice of adoption?	Miscellaneous
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WASHINGTON	Consent to adoption shall be required of any alleged parent or father of an adoptee. <i>Wash Rev. Code. § 26.33.160.</i>	A man is presumed to be the natural father of a child for all intents and purposes if: (a) He and the child's natural mother are or have been married to each other and the child is born during the marriage, or within three hundred days after the marriage is terminated; (b) Before the child's birth, he and the child's natural mother have attempted to marry each other; (c) After the child's birth, he and the child's natural mother have married, or attempted to marry, each other and he has acknowledged his paternity of the child in writing filed with the state registrar of vital statistics, with his consent, he is named as the child's father on the child's birth certificate, or he is obligated to support the child under a written voluntary promise or by court order. <i>Wash. Rev. Code § 26.26.116.</i> Valid acknowledgement of paternity and valid denial of paternity is filed with the state registry of vital statistics, <i>Wash. Rev. Code § 26.26.320,</i> and	The parent-child relationship of a father may be terminated upon a showing by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence that it is in the best interest of the child to terminate the relationship and that "the alleged father has failed to perform parental duties under circumstances showing a substantial lack of regard for his parental obligations and is withholding consent to adoption contrary to the best interest of the child." "The parent-child relationship of a parent or an alleged father may be terminated if the parent or alleged father fails to appear after being notified of the hearing." <i>Wash. Rev. Code § 26.33.120.</i> The minimum standards for determining whether a parent has met his obligations to his child include his expressions of love and affection for the child; indications of a personal concern for the child's health, education, and general well-being; provisions for supplying necessary food, clothing, medical care, and adequate shelter; and the furnishing of social and religious guidance to the child. ( <i>Pease v. Dobbs</i> , 531 P.2d 303, 305 (1975)).	"Notice of the hearing relinquishing a child for adoption shall be served on any relinquishing parent or alleged father." <i>Wash. Rev. Code § 26.33.090.</i> "The court shall set a time and place for a hearing on the petition for termination of the parent-child relationship, which shall not be held sooner than forty-eight hours after the child's birth. Notice of the hearing shall be served on the petitioner, the nonconsenting parent or alleged father, the legal guardian of a party, and the guardian ad litem of a party." The notice of the petition shall inform the nonconsenting parent or alleged father that failure to respond to the termination action within twenty days of service if served within the state or thirty days if served outside of this state, will result in the termination of his or her parent-child relationship with respect to the child; the notice shall inform an alleged father that failure to file a claim of paternity or to respond to the petition, within twenty days of the date of service of the petition is grounds to terminate his parent-child relationship with respect to the child. <i>Wash. Rev. Code §</i>	
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State	Consent: Does father have consent rights?	Putative Father: Does state have a putative father registry? If so, who qualifies for it?	Contact: Is playing a role in child's life a requirement for establishing paternal rights? How much of a role? Time frame?	Notice Requirement: Does father have a right to notice of adoption?	Miscellaneous
		process may be completed before birth of child. Wash. Rev. Code § 26.26.315		26.33.110.	
<b>WEST VIRGINIA</b>	Father's consent required for adoption if father has been determined by the court to be the father of the child or if father has filed a paternity action which is pending. <i>W. Va. Code § 48-22-301.</i>	Natural father may establish paternity via written, notarized acknowledgement. <i>W. Va. Code § 48-24-106.</i> W. Virginia has a voluntary adoption registry where birth father may register if: on birth certificate legitimate or acknowledged father, or has signed an abandonment form. <i>W. Va. Code § 48-23-403.</i>	Adoption permitted without father's consent where father has abandoned the child. <i>W. Va. Code § 48-22-301.</i> Proof of abandonment: <u>child older than six months</u> - failure to pay support, failure to visit or communicate for six months preceding adoption; <u>child under six months</u> - denounces child's paternity any time after conception or fails to provide prenatal and postnatal support of mother and child. <i>W. Va. Code § 48-22-306.</i>	If father is known, he is entitled to notice of adoption proceedings. If male has his paternity status pending, then notice is required. <i>W. Va. Code § 48-22-601.</i>	
<b>WISCONSIN</b>	Father's parental rights can be terminated if he has failed to assume parental responsibility for the child. Court decides rights of fathers who have filed declaration of interest or acknowledged paternity. <i>Wis. Stat. § 48.91.</i>	Any person claiming to be the father of a non-marital child may file a declaration of his interest in matters affecting the child, <i>Wis. Stat. § 48.025</i> , or can acknowledge paternity under <i>Wis. Stat. § 767.62</i> with state registrar. Must show paternity by clear and convincing evidence. <i>Wis. Stat § 48.423</i>	Yes. Rights as a parent can be terminated for abandoning child, including harm of child, and/or failure to assume parental responsibility including expression of concern or interest in pregnant mother, and acceptance and exercise of daily child care responsibilities. <i>Wis. Stat. § 48.415</i>	Father entitled to notice of adoption proceeding if he has filed a declaration of interest in the child or the mother names him as the father. <i>Wis. Stat. § 48.27</i>	
	Father or Putative Father must consent	Putative father registry records names and	Adoption permitted without consent of father when father	Putative father must be given notice of petition for adoption.	

State	Consent: Does father have consent rights?	Putative Father: Does state have a putative father registry? If so, who qualifies for it?	Contact: Is playing a role in child's life a requirement for establishing paternal rights? How much of a role? Time frame?	Notice Requirement: Does father have a right to notice of adoption?	Miscellaneous
WYOMING	in writing to relinquishment of custody of child and adoption anytime after the birth of child. <i>Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 1-22-109.</i>	addresses of fathers of children born out-of-wedlock, adjudicated father, and father who filed with registry before or after birth a notice of intent to claim paternity. <i>Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 1-22-117.</i>	willfully: abandons or deserts child, fails to contribute to support of child, fails to assert interest in child and responsibility for the child. <i>Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 1-22-110.</i> Proof of interest and responsibility include: visits, offer of support and gifts (JWR v. RG, 716 P.2d 984).	<i>Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 1-22-107.</i> But adoption permitted without father's consent when putative father fails to respond within thirty days of receiving notice of pending birth or birth of child of his interest in or responsibility for the child or his declaration of paternity. <i>Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 1-22-110.</i>	

Disclaimer: This survey reflects the state of local laws as of August 2004 (date of completion of the research). This survey is not intended to be a comprehensive study; rather, the survey attempted to focus on specific issues impacting fathers' rights as they relate to adoptions and to summarize the main applicable rules. Readers are encouraged to conduct their own research of the applicable statutes in their state. This survey should not be treated as a substitute for specific legal advice concerning individual situations