

STATE	UNRESTRICTED ACCESS TO ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATES
CT (2021)	<p>As of July 1, 2021 Public Act 21-21 goes into effect. This makes Connecticut is the 10th state with a policy of Unrestricted Access to original birth certificates for all adult adoptees (adult adoptees, born on or before 10/1/83, regained access as of 7/1/21).</p> <p>This follows HB6105 (AAC supported) having been signed into law on June 7, 2021 (Governor Ned Lamont). Previously, Connecticut was a Partial Access state (adult adoptees born after 10/1/83 via Act 14-133 in 2014).</p>
RI (2021)	<p>The new Rhode Island law (2021) lowers the minimum age for an adult adoptee to be eligible to apply for a non-certified copy of an original birth certificate (from 25 years old to 18 years old). This expands the unrestricted access provision for the state. Details of the substitute bill. Birth parents continue to have the option of filing non-binding contact preference forms. The Rhode Island statute does not allow relatives to request copies of the birth record. The prior statute took effect on July 1, 2012.</p>
ME (2009)	<p>Original Birth Certificates have been released to adoptees. Of the limited number of birth parents completing Contact Preference Forms, only eight have requested no contact. OBCs Access legislation was enacted on January 1, 2009, allowing adults, age 18 and older, to get their original birth certificates.</p> <p>Per https://adopteerightslaw.com/maine-obc/</p> <p>Adult adoptees in Maine have unrestricted access to their own original birth certificates. Adoptees must be 18 years of age before requesting their OBCs. Maine allows a birth parent to file a contact preference and medical history form, which is attached to the original birth certificates</p>
NH (2005)	<p>Per https://adopteerightslaw.com/new-hampshire-obc/</p> <p>New Hampshire law [since June 2005] gives adoptees who are at least 18 years of age unrestricted access to their own original birth certificates. The state also allows birth parents to file a contact preference form and/or health history questionnaire, neither of which will restrict the right of adult adoptees to obtain their OBCs.</p> <p>Court adoption records are not accessible except by court order. Any other identifying information—other than an original birth certificate— is not accessible except by court order or mutual consent</p>
NY (2020)	<p>Governor Andrew M. Cuomo signed S3419, supported by the American Adoption Congress, into law on November 14, 2019. The new law, Public Health Law 4138-e went into effect on January 15, 2020 and provides: Unrestricted access to long form original birth certificates for adult adopted persons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original birth certificate access for direct line descendants, or their legal representatives, if the adopted person is deceased • Original birth certificate access for legal representatives of adopted persons