

Consent to Adopt¹ Checklist (Notice of Intent to Consent to Adoption of Expected Child)

A parent may consent to a direct placement adoption, a stepparent adoption, or a relative adoption.² Refer to the Michigan Judicial Institute's [Adoption Release Checklist](#) if a parent wants to release a child to the DHHS or a child placing agency.

Prior to the birth of a child out of wedlock, a mother may file an ex parte petition seeking a notice of intent to consent to adoption of an expected child. [MCL 710.34\(1\)](#).

Upon receipt of the ex parte petition, the court *must*

- Verify the petition and ensure that the petition includes:
 - approximate date and location of child's conception,
 - expected date of the mother's confinement,
 - name of the alleged putative father(s), and
 - request for the court to inform the putative father(s) of right to notice of intent to claim paternity before the birth of the child. [MCL 710.34\(1\)](#).
- Issue a notice of intent to consent that must be served on the putative father with a proof of service filed with the court verifying the putative father received the notice.³ [MCL 710.34\(1\)](#); [MCR 3.802\(A\)\(1\)](#).

For court forms related to adoption proceedings, see the One Court of Justice [website](#).

¹ *Consent* means "a document in which all parental rights over a specific child are voluntarily relinquished to the court for placement with a specific adoptive parent." [MCL 710.22\(f\)](#).

² For a detailed discussion on Freeing a Child for Adoption, see the Michigan Judicial Institute's [Adoption Proceedings Benchbook](#), Chapter 2.

³ If the putative father is served with a notice and does not respond, he is not entitled to receive further notice of hearings involving the child. [MCL 710.34\(2\)\(d\)](#).

