

IC 31-19-2**Chapter 2. Filing of Petition for Adoption****IC 31-19-2-1****Adoption of adult; petition; venue; consent; investigation**

Sec. 1. (a) An individual who is at least eighteen (18) years of age may be adopted by a resident of Indiana:

- (1) upon proper petition to the court having jurisdiction in probate matters in the county of residence of the individual or the petitioner for adoption; and
- (2) with the consent of the individual acknowledged in open court.

(b) If the court in which a petition for adoption is filed under this section considers it necessary, the court may order:

- (1) the type of investigation that is conducted in an adoption of a child who is less than eighteen (18) years of age; or
 - (2) any other inquiry that the court considers advisable;
- before granting the petition for adoption.

As added by P.L.1-1997, SEC.11.

IC 31-19-2-2**Adoption of minor child; petition; venue; substituting petitioner**

Sec. 2. (a) A resident of Indiana who seeks to adopt a child less than eighteen (18) years of age may, **by attorney of record, file** a petition for adoption with the clerk of the court having probate jurisdiction in the county in which:

- (1) the petitioner for adoption resides;
- (2) a licensed child placing agency or governmental agency having custody of the child is located; or
- (3) the child resides.

(b) The county in which the petition for adoption may be filed is a matter of venue and not jurisdiction.

(c) Subject to IC 31-19-9-3, if an individual who files a petition for adoption of a child:

- (1) decides not to adopt the child; or
- (2) is unable to adopt the child;

the petition for adoption may be amended or a second petition may be filed in the same action to substitute another individual who intends to adopt the child as the petitioner for adoption. The amended petition or second petition under this subsection relates back to the date of the original petition.

As added by P.L.1-1997, SEC.11. Amended by P.L.146-2007, SEC.2.

IC 31-19-2-3**Adoption of hard to place child by nonresident; petition; venue**

Sec. 3. (a) An individual who is not a resident of Indiana and who seeks to adopt a hard to place child may file a petition for adoption with the clerk of the court having probate jurisdiction in the county

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