



# Legal assistance to navigate adoption

## One of the many benefits of your Legal Plan

Few things in life are more profound and exciting than the adoption of a child. Taking this important step should be a joyful time, and access to experienced attorneys can help things go smoother. With our network of attorneys on your side, you can be confident you're getting the advice and assistance you need.

With a Legal Plan, you can contact an attorney to help you navigate the adoption process, reviewing paperwork, providing advice and consulting on the steps involved in the process.

### Your legal plan can help with many types of adoption:

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| <b>Agency Adoption</b>                  | A domestic agency works with prospective parents and birth parents to find suitable matches for adoption. There are third party fees involved with an agency adoption, and having an attorney present can help ensure all finances are properly arranged. <sup>1</sup>  |
| <b>Private and Independent Adoption</b> | Prospective parents go through personal channels to try to find a child who needs adoption. They express their wishes to family and friends and wait to see if anyone is in need. Each state's laws on independent adoptions vary, so having an attorney involved can help ensure all requirements are met.   |
| <b>International Adoption</b>           | Thinking of adopting overseas? You must meet the requirements of both governments, as well as the agency you are working with. Depending on the country you are adopting from, many different people may be involved in the process. Paperwork for international adoptions can be daunting, but an attorney can make sure you fully understand the documents. |
| <b>Stepchildren</b>                     | Stepparents work with birth parents and the state court system to transfer parental rights. Many legal requirements must be met in order for one parent's rights to be terminated. Having an attorney on your side ensures your interests are well represented during this process.   |

MetLife Legal Plans also provides coverage for many other personal legal matters — such as estate planning, civil litigation defense and identity theft issues.

### Protection at every step

MetLife Legal Plans provides protection at every step. It offers real and tangible results in the form of legal representation and consultation. The protection is not only a result of affordability and accessibility—but also due to the range of covered legal services.



To learn more about your coverages and see our attorney network, create an account at [members.legalplans.com](https://members.legalplans.com) or call **800.821.6400**.

1. Plan does not cover adoption agency fees.

Group legal plans are administered by MetLife Legal Plans, Inc., Cleveland, Ohio. In California, this entity operates under the name MetLife Legal Insurance Services. In certain states, group legal plans are provided through insurance coverage underwritten by Metropolitan General Insurance Company, Warwick, RI. For costs and complete details of the coverage, call or write the company. Some services not available in all states. No service, including consultations, will be provided for: 1) employment-related matters, including company or statutory benefits; 2) matters involving the employer, MetLife and affiliates and plan attorneys; 3) matters in which there is a conflict of interest between the employee and spouse or dependents in which case services are excluded for the spouse and dependents; 4) appeals and class actions; 5) farm and business matters, including rental issues when the participant is the landlord; 6) patent, trademark and copyright matters; 7) costs and fines; 8) frivolous or unethical matters; 9) matters for which an attorney client relationship exists prior to the participant becoming eligible for plan benefits. Coverage for defense of criminal matters is excluded from insurance coverage for individuals located in New York. For all other personal legal matters, an advice and consultation benefit is provided. Additional representation is also included for certain matters. Please see your plan description for details.