

HAVING A BABY?

If you are not married, there are some important things you should know about adding the father's name to your child's birth certificate.



- The father's name is not automatically added to the birth certificate unless a Voluntary Acknowledgment of Paternity (VAP) form is completed.
- Acknowledging paternity using the VAP form is **FREE** and can be completed before leaving the hospital.
- DNA tests are not necessary if you both know he is the father.
- You will not lose your benefits (such as Medicaid or TANF) if you complete a VAP.
- Even if you name your baby after the father, he is not a legal father unless you both complete the VAP.

If you have additional questions about voluntarily acknowledging paternity, please refer to our website at www.childsupport.illinois.gov.





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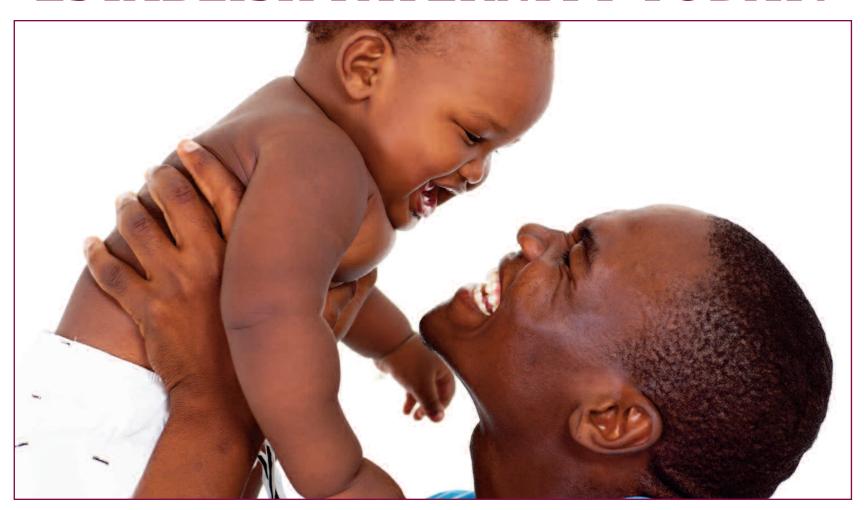
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FATHERS,

If you are not married to your child's mother, ESTABLISH PATERNITY TODAY!



- In the State of Illinois, <u>a father's name is not automatically added</u> to the birth certificate unless a **Voluntary acknowledgement of Paternity (VAP)** form is completed by you and the mother.
- It's a free and easy service for unmarried parents. Hospital staff will help both parents complete the paternity forms after the baby is born.
- If your name is not listed as the father on the child's birth certificate, even if the baby is named after you, you are not considered to be the child's "legal" father.

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