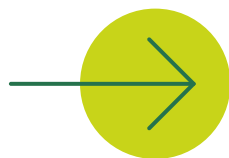


# Access to Birth and Early Life Information is changing



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[birthinfo.ie](http://birthinfo.ie)

**BIRTH  
INFORMATION  
& TRACING**



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,  
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige  
Department of Children, Equality,  
Disability, Integration and Youth



ÚDARÁS UCHTÁLA na hÉIREANN  
THE ADOPTION AUTHORITY of IRELAND

**TÚSLA**  
An Ghníomhaireacht um  
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach  
Child and Family Agency

# The Birth Information and Tracing Act is now here.

It confirms the right of a person to know their origins. People who were adopted, boarded out, the subject of an illegal birth registration or born in a Mother and Baby or County Home Institution, will have clear and guaranteed access to information and records about their birth and early life.

From October, people will be able to apply under the Act for their information. A dedicated website—[birthinfo.ie](https://birthinfo.ie)—has been set up to advise and assist those applying for birth information.

Under the Act, a **Contact Preference Register** has been established and this is now open for applications. **The register will enable adopted persons, parents or other genetic relatives to register their preference in relation to contact with each other.** Importantly, it will allow parents to register a no contact preference prior to their information being released as part of a person's birth and early life information. This ensures that the parent's right to privacy and wish for privacy will be communicated when releasing their information. It is important to be aware that information will always be released, even where a 'no contact' preference has been registered.

If you are eligible to register a preference, it's important to do so before the Information Service opens for applications in October, 2022. Contact preferences can still be registered after that date. However, when an application for information is received, only preferences recorded on the register at that point in time can be released with the associated information.

A **Tracing Service** is also being created for people actively seeking a reunion, wishing to make contact, or looking to share or seek information. The Tracing Service can facilitate the sharing of information while maintaining a level of contact (if any) that both parties are comfortable with. Reunion or contact through the Tracing Service will be based on the consent of both parties.

More information on the new rights and services under the Act, such as how to apply for identity information, registering your contact preference or how to use the Tracing Service, can be found at **birthinfo.ie**

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## Who can apply to access information?

Any **relevant person** can apply. This means any person who is 16 years or over and was:

- adopted
- the subject of an illegal birth registration or think they were
- nursed out or boarded out or think they were
- resident as a child in a Mother and Baby or County Home Institution

In addition, in certain circumstances where the relevant person has died, a next of kin can apply for birth and early life information relating to the relevant person. See **birthinfo.ie** for more detail.

**The application process opens in October 2022.**

## How do you apply?

A dedicated website—**birthinfo.ie**—has been set up with directions on how to go about applying for birth and early life information and records.

Support and assistance, is available through the Adoption Authority of Ireland and the Child and Family Agency, Tusla. Counselling is available through the Child and Family Agency, Tusla, the HSE National Counselling Service as well as overseas counselling support. Contact details are provided at the end of this booklet.

## What information can be accessed?

This legislation ensures that people have the right to their birth and early life information where it exists on a file, record or database. For some, there may be a lot of detailed records. Unfortunately, for others there may be little or no information available. This legislation guarantees you will get all of the following information, where available:

**Birth Information** relating to the person at the time of their birth, such as their name, birthplace and date, as well as their parents' names, dates of birth and other details.

**Care Information** where the person was under care of the State, or in care arranged by the State, such as who arranged it, where and when it took place.

**Early Life Information** relating to a relevant person's life before they reached the age of 18. For example, duration and location of care, information about their health, physical or emotional development, any religious events such as baptisms, or details around adoption arrangements.

**Medical Information** such as an applicant's own medical history and important genetic family medical history where it exists on files. An applicant's own medical information will be released directly to them, and the medical information of a genetic relative is released in a non-identifying way and with appropriate safeguards.

**Illegal Birth Registration** such as information about the circumstances under which a birth was illegally or incorrectly registered.

**Provided Item** may be any item held by the Adoption Authority or Tusla for the purpose of being made available on request, for instance a letter, photograph or other document.

**Unfortunately, in some cases the information applied for may not exist or be recorded. But all material that does exist will be made available, along with a copy of the underlying records.**

For further details on the type of information that can be accessed, visit [birthinfo.ie](http://birthinfo.ie)



## What is the Contact Preference Register?

The **Contact Preference Register** is a way to enable people to register their preference in relation to contact with an adopted person or genetic relative, as well as allowing them lodge personal communications or contemporary information, including medical details.

The following persons, where they have attained the age of 18 years, may apply to have an entry made in the register:

- a) a person who is a relevant person, as outlined above;
- b) a parent or relative of a relevant person;
- c) a person who was a relevant guardian or provided care to a relevant person;
- d) the adoptive parent of an adopted child, whether the child is living or deceased;
- e) the adoptive parent of an adopted person, where the adopted person is deceased;
- f) a person who was a friend of a deceased parent and who may be able to provide a relevant person with information on their origins

We will help you to make contact where this is what both parties want. The Adoption Authority of Ireland will maintain this Register.

More information on who is eligible to register a contact preference and how to do so is available at **[birthinfo.ie](http://birthinfo.ie)**

## What is the Tracing Service?

The legislation provides for a statutory **Tracing Service**. This will enable people to actively trace family members for consensual contact or sharing of information, including for instance, vital medical information.

Persons adopted, boarded out or with an illegal birth registration, their parents and their genetic relatives can apply for the service. More details on who is eligible to apply for a tracing service is available at **birthinfo.ie**

Information on the Contact Preference Register may be used as part of a Tracing Service search. But it's important to note that the two are separate and distinct services and need to be applied to separately.

### **The Tracing Service opens for applications in October, 2022.**

The Child and Family Agency, Tusla, has responsibility for managing applications to the Tracing Service.



## **IMPORTANT: This booklet is only a summary**

This booklet outlines the key changes and services brought about by the Birth Information and Tracing Act. To learn more and engage with the process in any way, please visit **birthinfo.ie** or call the phone numbers listed below.

### **For further support or assistance, please contact:**

#### **Adoption Authority of Ireland**

+353 1 230 9300 | [www.aai.gov.ie](http://www.aai.gov.ie) | [records@aai.gov.ie](mailto:records@aai.gov.ie)

#### **TUSLA**

+353 818 44 55 00 | [www.tusla.ie](http://www.tusla.ie) | [BITCounselling@tusla.ie](mailto:BITCounselling@tusla.ie)

#### **NCS National Counselling Service / HSE**

[www.hse.ie/ncs](http://www.hse.ie/ncs) | [BITCounselling@barnardos.ie](mailto:BITCounselling@barnardos.ie)

#### **Information on Overseas Support**

[www.gov.ie/MBHCounselling](http://www.gov.ie/MBHCounselling)

## **birthinfo.ie**

*This is an initiative of the Government of Ireland. The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth has lead responsibility for the Birth Information and Tracing Act 2022.*



# Tá an rochtain ar Fhaisnéis faoi Bhreithe agus Luathshaol ag athrú .....

[birthinfo.ie](http://birthinfo.ie)

**FAISNÉIS  
BREITHE  
& RIANÚ**



An Roinn Leanaí, Combhannais,  
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Oige  
Department of Children, Equality,  
Disability, Integration and Youth



ÚDARÁS UCHTÁLA na hÉIREANN  
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**TÚSLA**  
An Ghníomhaireacht um  
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach  
Child and Family Agency

# Tá an tAcht um Fhaisnéis agus Rianú Breithe anseo anois.

Deimhníonn sé an ceart atá ag duine eolas a bheith acu ar a mbunús. Beidh rochtain shoiléir ráthaithe ar fhaisnéis agus ar thaifid faoina mbreith agus faoina luathshaol ag daoine a uchtaíodh, a cuireadh ar lóistín, ar ábhar do chlárú breithe mídhleathach nó a rugadh i Máthair agus Leanbh nó Institiúid Baile an Chontae.

Ó mhí Dheireadh Fómhair, beidh daoine in ann iarratas a dhéanamh faoin Acht ar a gcuid faisnéise. Tá suíomh Gréasáin tiomnaithe—**birthinfo.ie**— bunaithe chun comhairle agus cúnamh a thabhairt dóibh siúd a dhéanann iarratas ar fhaisnéis breithe.

Faoin Acht, tá **Clár Rogha Teagmhála** bunaithe agus tá sé seo oscailte anois d'iarratais. **Cuirfidh an clár ar chumas daoine uchtaithe, tuismitheoirí nó gaolta géiniteacha eile a rogha rogha a chlárú maidir le teagmháil lena chéile.**

Is é an rud is tábhachtaí ná go gceadóidh sé do thuismitheoirí rogha gan teagmhála a chlárú sula scaoilfear a gcuid faisnéise mar chuid d'eolas breithe agus luathsaoil duine. Cinntíonn sé seo go gcuirfear ceart an tuismitheora chun príobháideachta agus a mian le haghaidh príobháideachta in iúl agus a gcuid faisnéise á scaoileadh. Tá sé tábhachtach a bheith ar an eolas go scaoilfear faisnéis i gcónaí, fiú nuair a cláraíodh rogha 'gan teagmháil'.

Má tá tú incháilithe chun sainrogha a chlárú, tá sé tábhachtach é sin a dhéanamh sula n-osclaíonn an tSeirbhís Faisnéise d'iarratais i mí Dheireadh Fómhair, 2022. Is féidir sainroghanna teagmhála a chlárú tar éis an dáta sin fós. Nuair a fhaightear iarratas ar eolais, áfach, ní féidir ach fabhair a thaifeadtar ar an gclár ag an tráth sin a scaoileadh leis an t-eolais ghaolmhar.

Tá **Seirbhís Lorgaireachta** á cruthú freisin do dhaoine atá ag lorg teacht le chéile go gníomhach, ar mian leo teagmháil a dhéanamh, nó atá ag iarraidh eolas a roinnt nó a lorg. Is féidir leis an tSeirbhís Rianaithe roinnt faisnéise a éascú agus leibhéal teagmhála a choinneáil (más ann dó) a bhfuil an dá pháirtí compordach leis. Beidh teacht le chéile nó teagmháil tríd an tSeirbhís Lorgaireachta bunaithe ar thoiliú an dá pháirtí.

Tá tuilleadh faisnéise ar na cearta agus na seirbhísí nua faoin Acht, mar shampla conas iarratas a dhéanamh ar fhaisnéis aitheantais, clárú do rogha teagmhála nó conas an tSeirbhís Lorgaireachta a úsáid, le fáil ag **birthinfo.ie**

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## Cé atá in ann iarratas a dhéanamh ar fhaisnéis a rochtain?

Is féidir le haon **duine ábhartha** iarratas a dhéanamh. Ciallaíonn sé seo aon duine atá 16 bliana d'aois nó níos sine agus a bhí:

- uchtaithe
- ábhar clárúcháin breithe mícheart nó a cheapann go raibh siad
- ag altranas nó ag bordáil amach nó a cheapann go raibh siad
- a chónaíonn mar leanbh i bhForas Teaghlaigh Máthair & Leanbh nó Contae

Ina theannta sin, i gcúinsí áirithe ina bhfuil an duine ábhartha tar éis bháis, is féidir le neasghaol iarratas a dhéanamh ar a eloais bhreithe agus luathsaoil a bhaineann leis an duine ábhartha. Féach [birthinfo.ie](http://birthinfo.ie) le haghaidh tuilleadh sonraí.

**Oslaíonn an próiseas iarratais i mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2022.**

## Conas a dhéanann tú iarratas?

Tá suíomh Gréasáin tiomnaithe—**birthinfo.ie**—bunaithe le treoracha ar conas iarratas a dhéanamh ar fhaisnéis agus ar thaifid faoi bhreith agus luathshaol.

Tá tacaíocht agus cúnamh ar fáil trí Údarás Uchtála na hÉireann agus an Gníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach, Tusla. Tá comhairleoireacht ar fáil tríd an nGníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach, Tusla, Seirbhís Náisiúnta Comhairleoireachta FSS chomh maith le tacaíocht chomhairleoireachta thar lear. Tá sonraí teagmhála ar fáil ag deireadh an leabhráin seo.

## Cén fhaisnéis is féidir a rochtain?

Cinntíonn an reachtaíocht seo go bhfuil an ceart ag daoine faisnéis a fháil faoina mbreith agus faoi luathshaol nuair atá sé ar chomhad, ar thaifead nó ar bhunachar sonraí. I gcás roinnt daoine, d'fhéadfadh go mbeadh go leor taifead mionsonraithe ann. Ar an drochuair, d'fhéadfadh sé gur beag an t-eolas atá ar fáil, nó nach mbeidh aon fhaisnéis ar bith, ar fáil do dhaoine eile. Cinntíonn an reachtaíocht seo go bhfaighidh tú an t-eolas seo a leanas ar fad, nuair atá sí ar fáil:

**Faisnéis Breithe** a bhaineann leis an duine tráth a mbreithe, amhail a (h)ainm, áit bhreithe agus dáta, chomh maith le hainmneacha a dtuismitheoirí, dátaí breithe agus sonraí eile.

**Faisnéis Cúraim** i gcás go raibh an duine faoi chúram an Stáit, nó faoi chúram arna shocrú ag an Stát, mar shampla cé a d'eagraigh é, cá háit agus cathain a tharla sé.

**Luathshaol Faiséis** a bhaineann le saol duine ábhartha sular shroich sé 18 mbliana d'aois. Mar shampla, fad agus láthair an chúraim, faisnéis faoina shláinte, a fhorbairt fhísiciúil nó mhothúchánach, aon imeachtaí reiligiúnacha ar nós baistí, nó sonraí faoi shocruithe uchtála.

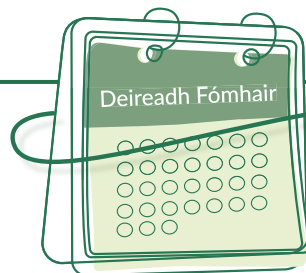
**Faisnéis Leighis** ar nós stair leighis an iarratasóra féin agus stair liachta teaghlaigh ghéiniteach tábhachtach nuair atá sé ar chomhaid. Déanfar faisnéis leighis an iarratasóra féin a scaoileadh go díreach chucu, agus scaoilfear faisnéis leighis faoi ghaol géiniteach ar bhealach neamh-shainaitheanta agus leis na cosaintí iomchuí.

**Clárú Breithe Neamhdhleathach** amhail eolais faoi na cúinsí faoinar cláraíodh breith go neamhdhleathach nó go mícheart.

**Clárú Breithe Mícheart** amhail faisnéis faoi na cúinsí faoinar cláraíodh breith go mídhleathach.

Ar choinníoll D'fhéadfadh mír ar bith a bheith i seilbh an Údaráis Uchtála nó Tusla chun críche í a chur ar fáil ach é a iarraidh, mar shampla litir, grianghraf nó doiciméad eile.

**Ar an drochuair, i gcásanna áirithe b'fhéidir nach ann do nó nach dtaifeadtar an fhaisnéis a iarrtar. Ach cuirfear gach ábhar atá ann ar fáil, mar aon le cóip de na taifid bhunúsacha.** Chun tuilleadh sonraí a fháil faoin gcineál faisnéise is féidir a rochtain, tabhair cuairt ar **[birthinfo.ie](http://birthinfo.ie)**



## Cad é an Clár Rogha Teagmhála?

Is bealach é an **Clár Tosaíochta Teagmhála** le cur ar chumas daoine a rogha rogha a chlárú maidir le teagmháil le duine uchtaithe nó gaol géiniteach, chomh maith le ligean dóibh cumarsáid phearsanta nó faisnéis chomhaimseartha a thaisceadh, lena n-áirítear sonraí leighis.

Féadfaidh na daoine seo a leanas, i gcás ina bhfuil 18 mbliana d'aois slánaithe acu, iarratas a dhéanamh go ndéanfar taifead sa chlár ina leith nó ina leith:

- a) duine is duine iomchuí, mar a leagtar amach thuas;
- b) tuismitheoir nó gaol duine iomchuí;
- c) duine a bhí ina chaomhnóir iomchuí nó a sholáthair cúram do dhuine iomchuí;
- d) tuismitheoir uchtála linbh uchtála, cibé acu an bhfuil an leanbh beo nó nach maireann;
- e) tuismitheoir uchtála duine uchtála, i gcás ina bhfuil an duine uchtaithe éagtha;
- f) duine a bhí ina chara do thuismitheoir éagtha agus a fhéadfaidh a bheith in ann faisnéis faoina mbunús a sholáthar do dhuine iomchuí.

Cabhróidh muid leat teagmháil a dhéanamh nuair is mian leis an dá pháirtí. Coimeádfaidh Údarás Uchtála na hÉireann an Clár seo.

Tá tuilleadh faisnéise maidir le cé atá i dteideal rogha teagmhála a chlárú agus conas é sin a dhéanamh ar fáil ag **[birthinfo.ie](http://birthinfo.ie)**

## Cad é an tSeirbhís Lorgaireachta?

Forálann an reachtaíocht do **Sheirbhís Lorgaireachta** reachtúil. Cuirfidh sé seo ar chumas daoine baill teaghlaigh a lorg go gníomhach chun teagmháil chomhthoiliúil nó faisnéis a roinnt, lena n-áirítear, mar shampla, faisnéis ríthábhachtach leighis.

Is féidir le daoine uchtaithe, daoine ar lóistín nó a bhfuil clárúchán mídhleathach breithe acu, a dtuismitheoirí agus a ngaolta géiniteacha iarratas a dhéanamh ar an tseirbhís. Tá tuilleadh sonraí maidir le cé atá i dteideal iarratas a dhéanamh ar sheirbhís rianaithe ar fáil ag **birthinfo.ie**

Is féidir faisnéis ar an gClár Rogha Teagmhála a úsáid mar chuid de chuardach Seirbhíse Lorgaireachta. Ach tá sé tábhachtach a thabhairt faoi deara gur seirbhísí ar leith agus ar leith iad an dá cheann agus gur gá iad a chur i bhfeidhm ar leithligh.

## Osclaítear an tSeirbhís Lorgaireachta d'iarratais i mí Dheireadh Fómhair, 2022.

Tá an Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach, Tusla, freagrach as iarratais chuig an tSeirbhís Lorgaireachta a bhainistiú.



## TÁBHACHTACH: Níl an leabhar seo ach achoimre

Imlíníonn an leabhrán seo na príomh-athruithe agus seirbhísí a tháinig chun cinn mar gheall ar an Acht um Fhaisnéis agus Rianú Breithe. Chun tuilleadh a fhoghlaim agus dul i ngleic leis an bpróiseas ar aon bhealach, tabhair cuairt le do thoil ar [birthinfo.ie](http://birthinfo.ie) nó cuir glaoch ar na huimhreacha gutháin atá liostaithe thíos.

### Le tacaíocht nó cúnamh breise, déan teagmháil le do thoil le:

#### Údarás Uchtála na hÉireann

353 1 230 9300 | [www.aai.gov.ie](http://www.aai.gov.ie) | [records@aai.gov.ie](mailto:records@aai.gov.ie)

#### TUSLA

+353 818 44 55 00 | [www.tusla.ie](http://www.tusla.ie) | [BITCounselling@tusla.ie](mailto:BITCounselling@tusla.ie)

#### An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta Comhairleoireachta / FSS

[www.hse.ie/ncs](http://www.hse.ie/ncs) | [BITCounselling@barnardos.ie](mailto:BITCounselling@barnardos.ie)

#### Eolas ar Thacaíocht Thar Lear

[www.gov.ie/MBHCounselling](http://www.gov.ie/MBHCounselling)

## birthinfo.ie

*Seo i dtionscnamh de chuid Rialtas na hÉireann. Tá príomhfhreagracht ar an Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Imeasctha agus Óige as an mBille um Fhaisnéis agus Rianú Breithe 2022.*