

Giving birth anonymously is a way out for women and girls in difficult situations.

Women and girls can give birth anonymously in all public hospitals in Tyrol, which means that

- your identity does not need to be revealed ; you are saying that you want to give birth anonymously,
- this is an option for you, regardless of your nationality,
- it is free of charge,
- you and your child will receive the best medical care and will also be able to benefit from psychological help,
- you will not have to worry about legal or criminal prosecution.

All you need to do is go to the maternity ward of the public hospital of your choice and tell them that you want to give birth to your child anonymously, in other words, without disclosing your identity. In an urgent situation, you can also contact the emergency services and tell them that you want to give birth anonymously. Even if you are already known in your hospital of choice because you have had previous scans there, you can still deliver your child anonymously. You have the right to give birth anonymously. You do not have to identify yourself; you could also give birth under a made-up name.

After delivery, you will receive legal advice from the Child and Youth Welfare service available to you locally. A colleague from the Child and Youth Welfare team will contact you.

In the event of an anonymous delivery, the custody of your child will in the first instance pass over to the provider of the Child and Youth Welfare services, which will select suitable adoptive parents for your child. These you can also meet, if you wish.

Up to the end of the adoption process, you can under certain circumstances revoke your decision to give up your child. In this case, too, the Child and Youth Welfare team will be your point of contact.

The adoption of a child means creating a contractual parent-child relationship that must be approved by the guardianship court. The biological parents renounce all rights and duties with regard to their child. These are then passed over to the adoptive parents on the basis of the adoption contract.

An adopted child will want to know about its birth parents and family. It will want to find out about the motives which prompted its mother to give birth anonymously and surrender it for adoption. This is important information for a child to discover its own true identity. The experience of Child and Youth Welfare services has shown how important it is to let the child find answers to these questions.

Which is why we would ask you to write a letter to your child and send it to the competent Child and Youth Welfare team. You can also write the letter at a later date and forward it to us.

The content of the letter to your child should include the following:

- place of the anonymous birth,
- date and time of the anonymous birth,
- why I gave birth to you anonymously,

- why I gave you up for adoption,
- my appearance,
- my age and my occupation,
- my living situation,
- what I know about the father,
- what I know about any hereditary diseases,
- what I want for you for the future, and
- anything else I would like to say to you...

You can also include a personal memento.

→If you do not want to give birth anonymously, there are still other options:

- you can disclose your name and
- still give up your child for adoption or
- opt for a place in a children's home,
- keep your child and take advantage of the Child and Youth Welfare service.

You will receive support along with anonymous legal advice from the Child and Youth Welfare department of the district authorities:

- Innsbruck District Commission, Child and Youth Welfare, Neuhauserstrasse 7, 6020 Innsbruck, Tel. 0512/ 5344 – 6212, bh.innsbruck@tirol.gv.at
- Imst District Commission, Child and Youth Welfare, Stadtplatz 1, 6460 Imst, Tel. 05412/ 6996 – 5361, bh.imst@tirol.gv.at
- Kitzbühel District Commission, Child and Youth Welfare, Josef-Herold-Strasse 10, 6370 Kitzbühel, Tel. 05356/ 62131 – 6342, bh.kitzbuehel@tirol.gv.at
- Kufstein District Commission, Child and Youth Welfare, Bozner Platz 1-2, 6330 Kufstein, Tel. 05372/ 606 – 6102, bh.kufstein@tirol.gv.at
- Landeck District Commission, Child and Youth Welfare, Innstrasse 5, 6500 Landeck, Tel. 05442/ 6996 – 5462, bh.landeck@tirol.gv.at
- Lienz District Commission, Child and Youth Welfare, Dolomitenstrasse 3, 9900 Lienz, Tel. 04852/ 6633 – 6582, bh.lienz@tirol.gv.at
- Reutte District Commission, Child and Youth Welfare, Obermarkt 7, 6600 Reutte, Tel. 05672/ 6996 – 5672, bh.reutte@tirol.gv.at
- Schwaz District Commission, Child and Youth Welfare, Franz-Josef-Strasse 25, 6130 Schwaz, Tel. 05242/ 6931 – 5831, bh.schwaz@tirol.gv.at
- City Magistrate of Innsbruck, Child and Youth Welfare, Ing.-Etsel-Strasse 5, 6020 Innsbruck, Tel. 0512/ 5360 – 9228, post.kinderhilfe@innsbruck.gv.at

List of Tyrolean public hospitals with maternity wards:

- City of Innsbruck:
General Austrian State Hospital - University Clinic of Innsbruck,
Anichstrasse 35, 6020 Innsbruck,
Tel. 050504-0
- District of Innsbruck-Land:
General Austrian State Hospital of Hall in Tirol,
Milser Strasse 10, 6060 Hall in Tirol, Tel. 050 504 34000
- District of Kitzbühel:
General Austrian District Hospital of St. Johann in Tirol,
Bahnhofstrasse 14, 6380 St. Johann in Tirol,
Tel. 05352/606-0
- District of Kufstein:
General Austrian District Hospital of Kufstein,
Endach 27, 6330 Kufstein, Tel. 05372/6966-0
- Districts of Landeck and Imst:
General Austrian District Hospital of St. Vinzenz,
Sanatoriumstrasse 43,6511 Zams, Tel. 05442/600-0
- District of Lienz:
General Austrian District Hospital of Lienz,
Emanuel-von-Hibler-Strasse 5, 9900 Lienz, Tel. 04852/606-0
- District of Reutte:
General Austrian District Hospital of Reutte,
Krankenhausstrasse 39, 6600 Reutte, Tel. 05672/601-0
- District of Schwaz:
District Hospital of Schwaz, BetriebsGmbH,
Swarovskistrasse 1 – 3, 6130 Schwaz,
Tel. 05242/600-0