



U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE

In an effort to prevent international child abduction, many governments have initiated procedures at entry/exit points. These often include requiring documentary evidence of relationship and permission for the child's travel from the parent(s) or legal guardian not present. Having such documentation on hand, even if not required, may facilitate entry/departure.

When a minor child is traveling without parent(s) or legal guardian(s), all parents/guardians named on the birth certificate, adoption papers or court documents must give signed and notarized authorization for the child to travel without them. We suggest that the notarized permission letter also include a clear, readable copy of the authorizing parent/guardian's driver's license. We strongly recommend that all travelers have a passport, irrespective of the country to which they are traveling.

In addition to the notarized authorization letters from both parents, the child must carry an original or certified copy of a birth certificate issued by a city, county or state and which has a raised seal. This document should show the names of both parents/guardians or the name of the parent/guardian who has sole custody, thus proving the parents' relation to the child in case any questions are raised.

Instructions for Parent Authorization Letter for Minors

You must fill out the attached form and present it at the airport check in and to immigration officials upon entering the country.

- All natural parents or legal guardians not traveling with child (under age 18) must sign:
 - o Even if divorced
 - o If divorced with sole custody, legal documentation supporting this must be attached and notarized.
 - o If Natural parent is deceased, a certified copy of the death certificate is required.
 - o Stepparents can NOT sign, unless child has been legally adopted, in which case, legal documentation supporting this must be attached and notarized.
- Keep this form with you when traveling.

Letter of Consent to Travel

I _____ provide my consent for
Name of Parent

my child(ren) _____ to travel with
Name of child(ren)

_____ to _____ from
Name(s) of adult travel companion(s) Country/Countries

_____ to _____.
Date Date

List specific travel information in the space below such as airline, flight number, cruise line and ship or tour operator.

Signed _____ Date _____

Telephone/Contact: _____

Address: _____

Signature of Notary: _____

Notary's Printed Name: _____

Notary Seal: