

## **How to Get an ATIN and Claim Your Child on Your Tax Return**

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has developed the Adoption Taxpayer Identification Number (ATIN) to assign a unique temporary tax identification number for children in the process of being adopted and cannot yet apply for a SSN until their adoption is final.

To get an ATIN for your child, you must submit IRS Form W-7A (Application for Taxpayer ID Number for Pending Adoption). You may download this form from the IRS website at **[www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)** then type "W-7A" in the search box.

The form is in PDF format and is fillable online. The form itself has valuable instructions on where and how to file the W-7A and what documents to include when filing.

Getting the ATIN takes at least 4-8 weeks so it is best to give yourself enough lead time in order to meet tax filing deadlines.

The ATIN issued to you for your child consists of a 9-digit number and expires 2 years from the date of its issue. Note that you must apply for your child's social security number (SSN) as soon as your adoption is final.