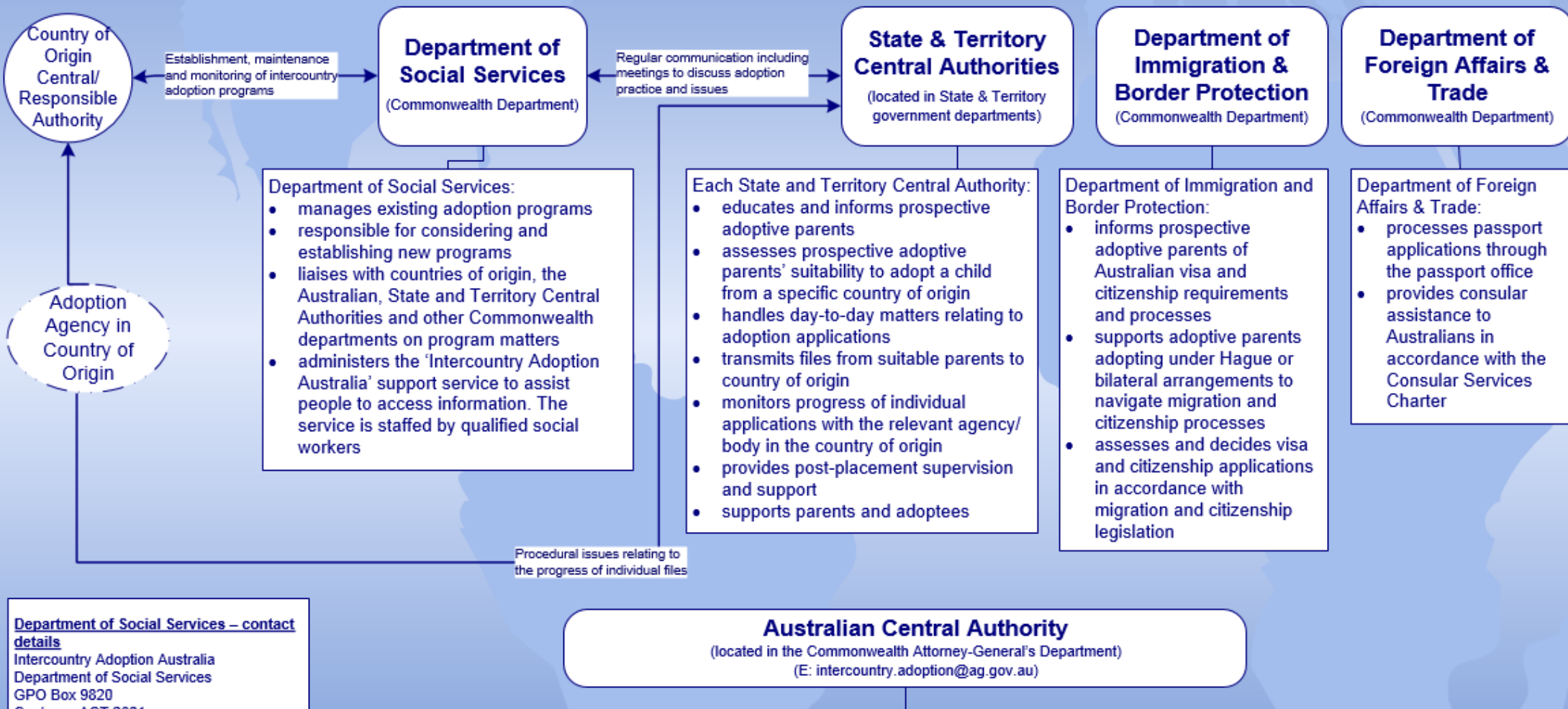


Intercountry Adoption in Australia

Last modified: 17 January 2017



Department of Social Services:

- manages existing adoption programs
- responsible for considering and establishing new programs
- liaises with countries of origin, the Australian, State and Territory Central Authorities and other Commonwealth departments on program matters
- administers the 'Intercountry Adoption Australia' support service to assist people to access information. The service is staffed by qualified social workers

Each State and Territory Central Authority:

- educates and informs prospective adoptive parents
- assesses prospective adoptive parents' suitability to adopt a child from a specific country of origin
- handles day-to-day matters relating to adoption applications
- transmits files from suitable parents to country of origin
- monitors progress of individual applications with the relevant agency/body in the country of origin
- provides post-placement supervision and support
- supports parents and adoptees

Department of Immigration and Border Protection:

- informs prospective adoptive parents of Australian visa and citizenship requirements and processes
- supports adoptive parents adopting under Hague or bilateral arrangements to navigate migration and citizenship processes
- assesses and decides visa and citizenship applications in accordance with migration and citizenship legislation

Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade:

- processes passport applications through the passport office
- provides consular assistance to Australians in accordance with the Consular Services Charter

Department of Social Services – contact details
 Intercountry Adoption Australia
 Department of Social Services
 GPO Box 9820
 Canberra ACT 2601
 Website: www.intercountryadoption.gov.au/
 Phone: 1800 197 760 (9am to 5pm (AEDT) Monday to Friday)

The Australian Central Authority is responsible for enabling the performance of Australia's responsibilities under the *Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption* by co-operating with overseas and Australian State & Territory Central Authorities on Convention matters.