

PAPERWORK AND DOCUMENTS CHECKLIST

- Application
- Background Checks
- Marriage and/or divorce decree
- Driver's License
- Social Security Card
- Birth Certificates
- Car Insurance
- Financial worksheet/proof of income.
(The family must be able to meet their own monthly financial needs and have excess to cover expenses for a child.)
- Proof of bills
- Mortgage or rental agreement
- Pet vaccinations (applies to dogs and ferrets)
- Medical Statements/Physicals



TRACK YOUR PROGRESS

1. Attended an adoption orientation.
2. Submitted an application.
3. Completed training.
4. Submitted all needed documentation
5. Passed background checks.
6. Passed home inspection.
7. Completed all home visits and interviews.
8. References returned to adoption worker.
9. Completed home study



DO YOU HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

For more information visit our website:
<https://adoptionoptioninc.org>

Foster **Connection**
Foster **Community**
Foster **To Adopt**



The ABC's of the Adoptive Family Assessment

ABC

Everything you need is here!

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THE JOURNEY IS WORTH IT!



Welcome to Adoption Option Inc.'s Adoption Program! You are about to embark the exciting journey of become an adoptive parent! We have created this brochure to help you understand the Adoptive Family Assessment, often called "The Homestudy." The process can be overwhelming, confusing and intrusive. This brochure can help you organize your paperwork, know what to expect, prepare for the interviews and track your progress.



WHAT IS THE ADOPTIVE FAMILY ASSESSMENT?

An Adoptive Family Assessment is a mutual process the prospective adoptive parent (s) proceeds through with the adoptive worker to determine if a couple or individual can qualify to be an adoptive parent(s). It is often referred to as the "homestudy."

The process to completing the Adoptive Family Assessment includes a series of interviews, submitting documentation, background checks, medical exams and home safety inspections. Adoptive families are also required to complete a training called GROW. Depending on the individual circumstances of the family, there may also be additional requirements which will be shared with you by the adoption worker.

At the end of the process, a document is written that describes: you and your family, the reasons you want to adopt, your ability to meet the needs of the children and the families we serve, and the types/number of children best suited to your home.

A HOMESTUDY

There are several categories that we will explore together such as: attitudes and beliefs regarding adoption, skills and areas of improvement, expectations of adoption, social history, values, goals, parenting style, advocacy skills and more.

B HOME VISITS AND INTERVIEWS

- The adoption worker will conduct 2-3 home visits in your home while completing the homestudy process.
- Everyone living in the home will be interviewed. The interview will include topics such as: the family dynamic as well as views, understanding and expectations for adopting.
- The interviews also provide you with the opportunity to ask questions, express concerns and get information.
- Youth will be asked about who will be part of your support system.

C REFERENCES

- 3 satisfactory references are needed. References will be mailed a form. References cannot be related to you, but can be friends, neighbors, co-workers, a faith leader, an employer etc.
- Reference check forms included topics such as:
 - Describing their relationship to the applicants.
 - How long they have known the applicants.
 - Describing the applicants' experience with parenting.
 - Any concerning behaviors or areas to note about the applicants.