

STEPS TO BECOMING A CERTIFIED FOSTER PARENT

1. MAKE A CALL TO THE AGENCY RECRUITER – Request an application packet.
2. SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION – Return the completed application and schedule an interview in your home.
3. ATTEND A 2-HOUR AGENCY ORIENTATION CLASS
4. COMPLETE THE FOSTER PARENT TRAINING SERIES (**P.R.I.D.E.**) – Attend a 6-week training program which is designed to help you:
 - Develop and improve parenting skills
 - Build confidence
 - Assist participants in assessing their strengths as foster parents
 - Learn how to work with social workers, agency staff, and dependent children and their birth parents and relatives
 - Understand your rights and responsibilities as caregivers
 - Explore ways to help dependent children adjust to their temporary foster homes
 - Learn about resources available to help support you and your family as a foster family
5. SUBMIT TO A LIVESCAN (fingerprint) and receive clearance for all adults living in your home. (*Please complete within the first week of training*)
6. COMPLETE A CPR/First Aid Class (*Please complete within the first 3 weeks of training*)
7. OBTAIN THE RESULTS OF TB TESTING FOR ALL OF THE PEOPLE RESIDING IN YOUR HOME (*Please complete within the second (2nd) week of training*)
8. ALLOW A COMPLETE SAFETY ASSESSMENT OF YOUR HOME (*Please complete before the end of training*)
9. Return the completed foster parent packet (*Please complete by the end of the 2nd week of training*)
10. A CHILD IS PLACED IN YOUR HOME – When you are certified, you will begin to receive calls from our agency asking to place foster children in your home. If the match is right, the child(ren) will be placed with you on either a short-term or long-term basis. Before a child is placed in your home, the agency social worker will explain the child's visitation schedule, which has been court-ordered to ensure on-going and regular visits between the child and his/her birth

parents and/or siblings. The agency social worker may also share additional information about the child that will help you provide the best care for that child.