



Foster Parent Requirements

- Be at least 21 years of age (single or married).
- Show proof of marriage and/or divorce (if applicable).
- Be in good mental and physical health.
- Have dependable transportation.
- Have stable income to support your family and household.
- Pass a fire and health inspection.
- Have a high school diploma, GED, or complete a competency test to demonstrate basic skills necessary for parenting.
- Have no criminal record or history of abusing a child.
- Be a citizen, permanent resident, or other qualified alien of the United States.
- Have enough childcare or life experience to provide sufficient background to become an effective foster parent.

You must also:

- Thoroughly complete the application and required documents.
- Complete required hours of foster parent training.
- Agree to a home study which includes visits with all household members.
- Complete a criminal history background check, abuse/neglect check on all adults in the household and agree to a nonphysical discipline policy.
- Agree to abide by the State of Texas and A Heart with Hope CPA's standards, policies, practices and procedure.



New Foster Parent Process

Initial Contact

Prospective parents will receive a Welcome Email/ Packet with basic information about A Heart with Hope Verification Process. Information will be given to complete and return.

Interest Meeting (Orientation & Decision Session: Meet our Child Placing Administrator)

This Orientation is designed to get to know the prospective foster parent and the environment in which they will care for children. Information about the agency and how it operates is also shared which allows all parties to make informed decisions about a partnering to care for children.

Pre-Service Training (Competency Training: Meet the Caseworkers)

This series of training strengthens the knowledge and confidence of prospective foster parents to competently care for children. Texas PRIDE is a 35-hour competency-based training program that is co-trained by an agency staff member and a foster or adoptive parent. PRIDE provides prospective foster families with base knowledge of information on caring for children in the child welfare system. PRIDE covers topics such as child attachment, loss and grief, discipline and behavior intervention, effects of abuse and neglect, sexual abuse, working with the child welfare system, and the effects of fostering and adopting on the family.



ADDITIONAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

The state minimum standards require that prospective foster families also complete the following training's or certifications, which are not part of the PRIDE curriculum:

- Normalcy Training
- Ongoing & Trauma Training (online)
- Trauma- Informed Care Training (online)
- Abuse and Neglect (online)
- Transportation Training (online)
- Psychotropic Medication Training (online)
- PAPH/ Certification in both First Aid and Infant/Child/Adult CPR for every household member and respite provider at least 14 yrs. of age
- TB Shots for every household member and respite provider at least 2 yrs. of age

Family Home Study

Our Family Home Developer will visit you in your home to discuss your personal history, family interests and lifestyle, childcare experiences, the types of children you feel would best fit in your home, and your strengths and skills in meeting the children's needs.

Licensing and Verification

A Heart with Hope Family Services, Inc. will make a decision to certify or license you as a foster parent.



Child Placement

A Heart with Hope Family Services, Inc. will match you with a child that you can leave a cherished impression on, based upon your certification or license.

TRANSFER FOSTER PARENT PROCESS

Transfer Interest

Please share your interest of transferring to A Heart with Hope with your current agency and CPS worker.

Initial Contact

Prospective parents will receive a Welcome Email/ Packet with basic information about A Heart with Hope Verification Process. Complete and return all A Heart with Hope (AHHW Application, Data Collection, Release of Information, Background Check, and Steps to Verification).
III. Interest Meeting (Orientation & Decision Session: Meet our Child Placing Administrator)

This Orientation is designed to get to know the prospective foster parent and the environment in which they will care for children. Information about the agency and how it operates is also shared which allows all parties to make informed decisions about a partnering to care for children.



Pre-Service Training (Competency Training: Meet the Caseworkers)

Transferring parents are required to attend at least 2 hours of this training. (Additional training might be required after reviewing all records.)

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