



Graceful Adoptions Home Study Requirements

The Home Study will be a written assessment of the family which shall be used to approve or deny a prospective adoptive family. The written assessment will include the date the home study was completed and it will **be signed by the investigator with a notarized signature.**

The following is a list of items you should expect to provide to your home study worker during the home study process, or to Graceful Adoptions if requested. Graceful Adoptions reserves the right to request additional collaborative information as needed.

The assessment shall include the following:

- Motivation for adoption and whether the family has biological, adopted, or foster children
- Family and extended family's attitude toward accepting an adopted child, and plans for discussing adoption with the child
- The attitude towards adoption by significant others involved with the family
- Emotional stability, marital history and assessment of marital relationship, including verification of marriages and divorces, and compatibility of adoptive parent(s)
- Ability to cope with problems, stress, frustrations, crises, separation, and loss
- Medical conditions which would affect the applicant's ability to parent a child
- Ability to provide for the child's physical and emotional needs
- Adjustment of biological children and previously adopted children, if any, including their attitude towards adoption, adjustments in the family and in school
- Capacity to give and receive affection
- Statements from at least three references provided by the family and other unsolicited references
- Attitude of the adoptive applicants towards the birth parent(s) and the reason(s) the child is available for adoption
- Income information
- Disciplinary practices that will be used
- History of abuse by family members and treatment
- Assessment of commitment to and capacity to maintain other significant relationships
- Substance use or abuse by family members and treatment
- Recommendations for age, race, gender, health and post placement relationship desired



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Back-up material shall include:

- FBI Fingerprint checks – anyone 14 years or older in home. Must be issued within the last 12 months.
- Criminal History checks – anyone 14 years or older in home. Must be issued within the last 12 months.
- Child Abuse Registry check within any state or country lived in within the past five years. Must be issued within the last 12 months.
- State Sex Offender Registry check of anyone 14 years or older in home. Must be issued within the last 12 months.
- Photocopy of Social Security card
- Photocopy of current applicants' driver's licenses and auto insurance cards
- Photocopy of health insurance card
- Statement or proof of life insurance
- Photocopies of reference statements/questionnaires
- Physician's statement for entire family (may substitute current immunization record on children under 18 years of age)
- Veterinary records – proof of current vaccinations on pets
- Licenses – applicants' birth certificate(s), marriage certificate, and if applicable, applicants' divorce decree(s), notice of death of spouse(s)
- Financial Summary (income vs. expenses, net worth, savings account statements)
- Proof of finances
 - Letter from employer verifying employment including length of employment, current job title and current salary
 - W2/1040, or recent pay stubs for current and past year
- Guardianship statement/form
- Training certificates for Graceful Adoptions' required training
- Photocopy of license of organization or person completing the home study