



Finding an Agency That's Right for You

Becoming a foster parent requires you to work with an agency and we want to make sure you find an agency that's right for you. Use this checklist as a guide to ask questions. Take notes and feel free to interview a couple agencies until you're certain you've found the right one.

- Ask for referrals.** Check with friends, foster/adoptive parent groups, and faith communities to see if they recommend a particular agency.

- Make a list.** Make sure you know all of the agencies located in your area.

- Get to know them.** Meet with the agency's workers to find out what services and support they offer. Ask to speak to current foster and adoptive parents to learn how their experience has been.

- Know your timeline.** Ask how long it takes the agency to license a foster home.

- Be prepared.** Ask the agency about foster parent requirements and expectations regarding parenting time and transporting foster children to appointments.

- Set your training schedule.** Ask the agency when and how often it offers PRIDE training and request a schedule.

- Get help.** Ask if the agency has a foster/adoptive parent mentoring program and/or support group.

- Get the facts.** Ask for the agency's standards of practice, such as how long it takes them to return phone calls, protocol for after-hours emergencies, etc.

- Trust your instincts.** Choose an agency you are compatible with and don't work with an agency you haven't personally investigated.
