



HOME STUDY REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST

DOCUMENTS NEEDED

Your home study provider will have a specific list of required items that they will need. Here is a general list, typical of most home study requirements. Use this in preparation as you evaluate your home study readiness and plan time to request documents you may need to order.

- Completed Home Study Questionnaire (from your provider)
- Autobiographical Statement
- Birth Certificates (certified copy for everyone living in your home)
- Marriage Certificate (typically certified copy required)
- Divorce Decrees (typically certified copy required)
- Proof of Insurance (Medical, Auto, Home, Life)
- Military Discharge Information
- Passports (if adopting internationally)
- Tax Returns
- Financial information
- Verification of Employment
- Health History Forms (from provider)
- Physician Examination Statement (not more than 6 months old)
- HIV Test Results
- TB Test Results
- Criminal Record Statement
- Proof of Live Scan Fingerprinting
- Child Abuse Database Clearance
- Sex Offender Database Clearance
- DMV Forms
- School Report for any Minor Children in the Home
- Letters of Recommendation (Usually no more than 6 required)
- Pet Vaccination records
- Adoption Decrees (for any other adopted children)



Additional paperwork and information may be required if:

- You have lived in different states in the last five years
- You are or have been diagnosed with a serious or chronic illness
- You take medication for mental health reasons (anxiety, depression, etc.)
- You have any convictions including driving under the influence
- You have adults (other than your own adult children) living in the home

As you review this list, take notice of what you don't have and may have to obtain. Some items, such as certified copies of birth or marriage certificates, may take weeks or even months to obtain. Even if you are unsure if your provider requires them, it is a good idea to begin the request process early.

PREPARING YOUR HOME

Home studies include a home visit. You can prepare for your visit now by ensuring these items are installed or that you have a plan for safety once your child is in your home:

- Working smoke detectors in every bedroom and on every level, including your child's room
- Fire Extinguishers, including one in or near the kitchen
- Carbon monoxide detector
- Evacuation plan for every level
- All toxic chemicals, cleaning products, medications, and vitamins are in a locked cabinet or on a shelf out of a child's reach.
- First aid kit
- Covered electrical outlets
- All windows have locks and secure screens
- Fireplace or wood stove is screened
- Firearms are stored in a locked container. Ammunition is stored separately
- Kitchen trash can is covered
- Gates for staircases
- Hot tub has a locked cover
- Pools, ponds, or other standing bodies of water are fenced



PREPARING YOURSELF

Your home study provider will have specific requirements for education that is part of the adoption preparation process. Typically the following are required:

- CPR and First Aid Training
- Parenting Classes (that include parenting adopted children)
- Transracial Adoptive Parenting (if open to adopting outside of your race)
- Parenting the Older Child (if open to adopting older children)