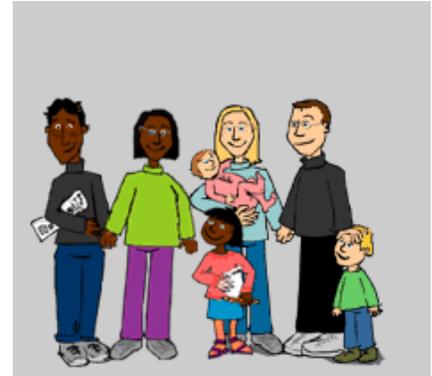


FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions about Becoming a Foster Parent



What do Foster Parents do?

- provide a safe home, appropriate meals, clothing and accommodation
- provide a warm, nurturing environment, guidance and supervision that respond to the child's individual needs and cultural heritage.
- work cooperatively as a team player with social workers and other professionals for the best interests of the child.
- ensure contact between the child and their family and cultural community when appropriate.
- follow MCFD Standards and discipline policy. No physical discipline is allowed, ever, for any reasons, in a foster home.

Why are children in care?

Children enter foster care because their parents are unable to care for them for a variety of reasons.

Do I have a choice about which child is placed in my home?

Yes. Foster Parents can specify age, gender and number of children they wish to care for.

How long will a foster child be in my home?

Some children stay in foster care for a day or two. Others may stay in care longer, even for a couple of years. You will be given an estimate when they come into care.

I'm single. Can I still be a Foster Parent?

Yes. Foster Parents can be single, in a partnership, or married.

Do I have to own my home?

No. Foster Parents may own or rent. You must carry renter or homeowner insurance.

Can I work outside of the home?

Yes. However, in most cases, having one parent at home, or having a flexible or part-time job often works best for the children.

Can I smoke in my home?

Smoking is not allowed in your home or vehicle while you are a Foster Parent.

Are there costs to potential Foster Parents?

No. The home study and all required training are provided free of charge.

Will I receive financial assistance for the children in my care?

Yes. You will receive a payment designed to cover expenses such as board, food, clothing, recreation, etc. Some Foster Parents may be paid at higher levels to provide specialized service. See FAQ-Levels.

How do I apply to become a Foster Parent?

Contact the Coordinator in your area or call Ministry of Children and Family Development, Resources office. She will answer your questions or invite you to an information session.

You will receive an application package which includes a criminal records check. You will have a home study done and you will need to attend Pre-Service Orientation classes.