

RFA SUPPORTS COMMITMENT TO CHILDREN, YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS AND FAMILIES

RFA reaffirms the commitment to serving children, youth, young adults and families because it:

Focuses on Lifelong Relationships

- RFA supports connecting children, youth, and young adults to safe, caring relationships that can last a lifetime by focusing on families.
- RFA's purpose is to place children, youth, and young adults with families that can provide a lifelong connection by determining permanency approval upfront.

Achieves Results for Children, Youth, Young Adults and Families

- Upfront training and ongoing services prepare caregivers to meet the needs of children and youth and assisting families with forming lifelong relationships.
- Supportive and loving long-term relationships lead to stable permanent placements and improved outcomes for children, youth, and young adults.

Improves Efficiency

- The new coordinated process will eliminate duplication, reduce paperwork, and maximize the efficient use of staff and system resources.



[DEPARTMENT NAME]

Consider Becoming a Resource Family Today

ASK US HOW

For more information, contact:

Agency Name

[Street Address]

Phone: [Phone Number]

Fax: [Fax Number]

[www.]



Becoming a Resource Family
Through a Streamlined
Foster Care and Adoption
Process for Children, Youth,
and Young Adults

Resource Family Approval (RFA)

All children need and deserve a safe, loving, nurturing, accepting, and consistent place to live where they can thrive and mature. Becoming a resource family caregiver provides a home for a child to do just that.

Resource Family Approval (RFA) is a new caregiver approval process that a foster parent, relative, non-relative extended family member, or adoptive family completes to be considered for potential placement of a child, youth, or young adult (non-minor dependents from 18-21 years old).

RFA combines elements of the current licensing, relative approval, adoption, and guardianship processes.

RFA Streamlines the Approval Process

RFA is a unified, family-friendly and child-centered resource family approval streamlined process that includes one application, one background check, combined home environment and permanency assessments, pre-approval and post-approval training for all families.



RFA Requirements

There may be minimal costs associated with RFA. For more information, please contact your county. The following is a **partial list** of requirements to be met prior to approval.

- Live Scan fingerprints
- Pre-approval and post-approval training
- Home environment assessment
- CPR/First Aid
- Health Screening
- DMV Report

The approval process also includes:

- In-home visits with all adults and children, youth, and young adults
- Reference checks
- Collections of verifications and completed application forms

RFA Facts

If a care provider is currently licensed, he/she will not be required to be assessed as an RFA care provider. If an existing foster family is ready to adopt, they may go through the adoption home study process or RFA process, depending on your county's policies and procedures.

Once approved, Resource Families may be considered for placement of related or unrelated child(ren) for foster care, adoption or legal guardianship, depending on the Resource Family's goals. Resource Family Approval does not guarantee placement of a child. These decisions are determined by the child's worker and the courts.

During an emergency situation, a child, youth or young adult can be placed in a relative home prior to approval if certain requirements are met.

- A home and grounds inspection
- Criminal record and Child Abuse Index check
- Initiation of RFA process within 5 business days if continued placement desired including
 - Completion or live scan background check within 10 days
 - Completion of RFA process within 90 days of placement