



# Autobiographical Information

## Child Foster Home

*Applicants and co-applicants should complete this form separately. Please attach additional pages if needed. This form will be used by the Certifier to complete the Home Study.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

How would you describe yourself to someone you just met?

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What things do you enjoy doing as hobbies?

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Describe your three best and three worst traits.

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Describe three things you would change about yourself and why.

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What things or circumstances intimidate or frustrate you? How do you handle these situations?

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How do you deal with anger? Describe something that typically makes you angry and how you deal with it.

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Describe what you do when you feel troubled, confused, depressed or stressed.

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Give a specific example of how you have changed over the past few years.

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How do you like family and friends to show that they care for you?

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Where did you live growing up? Complete information below.

Locations lived	Dates lived at location	Reason for move

Who did you live with growing up? Include siblings, parents, and any other individuals living in your home.

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What memories do you have of your childhood environment? Include positive and negative memories.

Positive	Negative

Describe yourself as a child. What was your personality like?

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Who provided the primary parenting for you (and your siblings)? If not your parent(s), describe the situation.

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If your parents did not raise you, were your parents available to you? In what way? How often?

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How many parenting figures did you have during your childhood?

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What would you change about the environment you grew up in?

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Were drugs, alcohol, abuse, domestic violence, or anything of that nature present growing up?

**NA**       **Yes**

If Yes, please describe your situation and how it was resolved.

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What challenges or losses (including divorce, major medical, or death) did your family have to deal with growing up? How did you and your family deal with them?

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What was your mother's personality like? Did she work out of the home? What were her primary responsibilities?

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Describe your relationship with her.

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What was your father's personality like? Did he work out of the home? What were his primary responsibilities?

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Describe your relationship with him.

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What was your parents' relationship/marriage like?

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How long were they together? Are they still together?

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How did your family interact with other family members?

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How was conflict dealt with growing up?

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How were decisions made when you were growing up?

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What type of discipline was used in your home, and who was the primary disciplinarian?

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Was the discipline consistent? What were you (and your siblings) usually disciplined for? Do you think it was fair?

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What were some of the expectations of the person(s) who raised you (house rules, education, etc.)?

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How did your family show love and affection in the home?

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How did your family express other emotions like anger, sadness, joy, disappointment and frustration?

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Did you feel approved of and accepted as a child? Please describe.

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What did you learn from your parent's marriage and raising a family?

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How do you think this affects the way you view marriage and having a family?

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Do you think you are most like your parents or the opposite? Describe why.

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What is your current relationship with your parents? Where do they live?

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List the names of your siblings and their date of birth - including yourself - in order of birth and where each person lives.

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How did you get along with your siblings when you were growing up? If you were an only child, how did this affect you?

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Describe your relationship with each of your siblings now.

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Where have you lived as an adult? List each location, dates of residence and reason for the move.

Locations	Dates	Reason for moving

Do you have any children or stepchildren? If so, please provide their names, address and date of birth. Are any of these children adopted, from a previous marriage, or from other circumstances?

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Are any of your children living out of the home? What are their names and ages? Provide their addresses and phone numbers.

Name:	Address:	Phone:

How would you describe your relationship with your children?

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What responsibilities do they have in the home?

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What do you think their best qualities are?

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What challenges do they bring to the family dynamics?

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What academic, behavioral, or medical difficulties have the children had to deal with?

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What community activities is your family involved in?

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If you do not have children, why do you not at this time?

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Is there, or has there been, physical, alcohol, drug, emotional, or sexual abuse in your immediate family?  **NA**  **Yes**

If Yes, describe the abuse that occurred and the duration.

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Did the abuser receive treatment? Was it helpful?

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Did the victim receive treatment? Was it helpful?

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What does your family think about you becoming a foster parent? Include any extended family members who you have regular contact with.

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Describe what a typical family argument would be about and how it would be resolved. If you are single, how do you think arguments will be resolved?

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What values or customs do you want to pass onto your children or foster children?

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Please state your household rules and expectations.

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How would you plan to teach these to foster children?

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Describe a typical daily family routine.

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What is your family routine for meal times?

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How would you describe your strengths in parenting a child?

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What would your weaknesses be and how might you deal with them?

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**DISCIPLINE STYLE**

How would you describe your discipline style?

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What forms of discipline do you use for different behaviors?

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Is physical discipline ever used? Has it been used in the past? Describe the type and circumstances in which it was used.

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How do you reward good behavior?

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What do you and your partner do when you disagree about discipline?

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When is discipline necessary?

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If you have children, would they say that your discipline is fair? Why or why not?

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How might you adapt discipline to children who cannot comprehend discipline and reasoning?

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**EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE**

Did you graduate from high school?  Yes  No List any post high school education or training you have had.

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Describe what you do for a living and how much time you spend working outside the home.

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Describe any training, experience or skills you have that would be applicable to foster parenting children with developmental disabilities.

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Have you ever parented a child that was not your biological child? Describe the situation. How was the situation different from parenting a biological child?

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Have you ever been certified or licensed to care for either adults or children? If yes, list the agency, state, and time period. If you are no longer licensed/certified explain why.

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What kind of training do you think you need to help you be a better foster parent?

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**LIFE GOALS**

What are your personal goals for the coming year?

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What are your long term personal goals?

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Do you plan to continue to work if you become a foster parent? Where and how often?

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**COMMUNITY SUPPORT SYSTEM**

Do you have immediate or extended family living near you?

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Describe the support system you and your family use (relatives, friends, church, school, etc.)

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What is your extended family's reaction to you becoming a foster parent?

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How would you react if your family did not accept a foster child placed in your home?

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What religion or spiritual practice would you classify yourself and your family as having, if any?

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In what ways does your religion or spiritual practice affect your daily life?

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Do your family members have different religious beliefs? If so, please describe.

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What will you do if a foster child in your home does not want to participate, or if they are of a different religion and want to participate in that religion?

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How will you and your family react if a child of a different culture or ethnicity is placed in your home?

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How do you think your extended family and neighborhood will react?

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How do you plan to incorporate a foster child into your community outings?

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What is your respite care plan when a child is placed in your home? (Include how you will coordinate work and school schedules.)

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What will you do with a child placed in your home when your family goes on vacation?

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**MOTIVATION TO BECOME A FOSTER PARENT**

What motivates you to become a foster parent for children with developmental disabilities?

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What qualities do you think you have that would make you a good foster parent?

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**DESCRIPTION OF HOME AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITY**

Briefly describe how your home looks on the outside and inside.

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Is your home wheelchair accessible?  Yes  No

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Describe your neighborhood. What is the diversity of your neighborhood and community?

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Do you get along with your neighbors?

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**CHILDREN CONSIDERED FOR PLACEMENT**

What ages and sexes would you consider for placement?

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Will foster children in your home share a bedroom with any other children? With whom?

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What behaviors do you think you would not be able to accept? Why so?

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What behaviors do you think you handle very well? Do you have any specific experience?

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Some parents of children in foster care have lost custody of their child due to abuse or neglect. The children may have no contact or little contact with their parents, siblings, or family members. Describe your feelings about working with the parents of a child placed in your home under these circumstances.

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Some parents of children in foster care have voluntarily placed their child into foster care due to the child's special needs. Describe your feelings about working with the parents of a child placed in your home under these circumstances.

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Describe ways you would work with other individuals involved (other family members of the child, school, State Guardian, Case Manager, doctors, counselors, etc.).

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Has the kind of child that you would like to foster parent changed since the beginning of the application process? If so, how?

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How long would you like to see a child stay in your home (days, weeks, months, years)?

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How long do you think you and your family will be available for foster care?

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**MARRIED OR UNMARRIED COUPLES**

(Single applicants skip this section.)

How long have you been married or in a committed relationship?

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If you have been divorced or terminated a past committed relationship, list the person's name, when married /began cohabitating, when divorced /separated, and what kind of contact you have with that person currently.

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How did you and your spouse or partner meet?

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Describe your spouse or partner's personality and what qualities you most appreciate.

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Describe what you think would make your partner a good foster parent.

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What qualities would you like to change?

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How would you describe your values and beliefs as a couple?

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In what ways do your values or beliefs differ? How do you resolve these differences?

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Describe how you resolve conflicts or make difficult decisions.

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What have been the most serious challenges that you have had to face together? Describe how you handled the situation and how it was resolved.

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Describe how your relationship has changed over the years.

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What do you do together to have fun?

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How do you communicate affection?

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How do you handle physical and sexual intimacy around children?

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**SINGLE APPLICANTS ONLY**

How often do you date? If there is a significant person in your life, what is the person's name, age, and occupation?

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Describe this relationship. What does this person think about you becoming a foster parent? What kind of involvement will this person have with the foster child? How much time will they spend in the home?

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List any previous marriages, committed relationships, separations, and divorces. Include the name, length of the relationship or marriage.

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How do you handle physical and sexual intimacy around children?

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How do you think being a foster parent will affect your relationships or dating in general?

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Are you actively involved with any other children in your life? Describe the situation.

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How do you see foster children fitting into your lifestyle?

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What do you think will be the most challenging thing about being a foster parent?

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