



The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon
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Steps to Become Certified

There are numerous variables along the certification process that impact the completion of these steps. But in general the process should be as follows:

Step 1: Find Out More

Get as much information about foster care as you can. Children and Family Services offers opportunities to talk one-on-one with certification staff, or attend a Foster Care information session to ask questions and learn more before attending required training.

Step 2: Make the Decision

Becoming a foster parent will bring changes to your life. Because of that, it is important every member of your household considers what that will mean to them. The following is a list of questions that can help you make the right decision with your family:

- Does everyone in our family believe that foster parenting is right for us?
- Do we have friends or family that will support us in this decision?
- Do we have space in our home for a child?
- Is there an age group or gender that would work best with our family?
- Are there special needs a child may have that we would not be comfortable taking on?

Step 3: Complete an Application

After deciding to begin the process of becoming a foster parent for Children and Family Services you will receive an application packet to complete. Once your completed application has been received, we will complete your child welfare check and your completed fingerprints will be submitted to the Oregon State Police for your criminal background check. Upon receipt of the background and reference checks, home visits will be scheduled which will include all members of the household. When your application has been accepted you will attend classes to become familiarized with the needs of foster children.

Step 4: Attend Training

Foster parents require skills that are unique to parenting Tribal children who may have been abused, neglected, and may have special needs. Trainings that Children and Family Services requires include but are not limited to:

- Foster Care Orientation
 - The children who will be in their care
 - How to effectively work with schools, therapists and others to help children in your care
 - Policies and procedures
 - Discipline without punishment
 - Cultural Trainings and Events
- Ongoing training plans include other behavior/need specific trainings & resources.

Step 5: Home Study

The homestudy process begins with your completed foster care application packet. This is a very thoughtful process consisting of a series of interviews, home visits, meeting your children and others who may also live in your home, safety/fire inspections and sometimes medical information from your doctor.

Step 6: Accept a child placed into your home & family.

Working together with your certifier, you will decide what children you can best care for. Before a child comes into your home, you will be given information about the child to help you decide if the placement is right for you.

Step 7: Supervision

When a child is placed in your home the child's caseworker will continue to provide you with information about the child which will help you better understand him or her as well as meet the child's need for safety and well being. Caseworkers spend time with children placed in foster care a minimum of every 30 days. Caseworkers also have monthly contact with you and may visit you in your home. As a foster parent you will also receive notice and have a right to be heard in any juvenile dependency court review or hearing regarding your foster child(ren).

Step 8: Assistance

Your certifier will be available to you for support and guidance. You will see your certifier regularly and he or she will invite you to trainings and events and share other training resources.