
C O U N S E L I N G
& F A M I L Y S E R V I C E S

Eligibility of Adoptive Clients

Counseling & Family Services (CFS) requires the following of adoptive applicants:

1. Applicant(s) must be a single person or a man and woman married to each other for at least two years. Each parent shall be willing and able to assume appropriate responsibilities for the child or children received for care.
2. Applicants shall be stable, law-abiding, responsible, mature individuals at least 21 years of age. Applicants must be capable of passing both a criminal background check and a child abuse and neglect tracking system (CANTS), check. All members of the household age 13 and older must pass the background check required in 89 Ill. Adm. Code 385. For international adoption, adult applicants must also be able to pass FBI check as well as any clearances required by Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.
3. Applicants must be in good physical health and be able to provide required physical examination record for all members residing in the home.
4. Applicants shall provide the names and addresses of five persons who can attest to the character of the applicant. At least 3 must be unrelated.
5. Applicants shall have sufficient financial resources to provide basic necessities for themselves, their children and all children in their care.
6. Applicants shall participate in all training required by the agency prior to placement of a child.
7. Applicants understand that the agency determines the placement of children and considers number, ages, special needs, family strengths and resources when considering most appropriate placements for children. Applicants have the capacity to adequately supervise children in their care.
8. Applicants have sufficient financial resources to provide basic necessities for themselves, their children and those they seek to adopt. Applicants must have health insurance or sufficient financial resources to meet the medical needs of a child, as well as some form of life insurance.
9. Applicants must disclose previous adoption applications or adoption experiences with this agency. If applicants worked previously with another agency or attorney, they must be willing to sign a Release of Information granting this agency the right to address their previous history.

10. Applicants must complete and sign agency application.