



2022

Department for Community Based Services Statewide Foster Care and Adoption Information

Thank you for your interest in becoming a foster or adoptive parent in Kentucky.

There are nearly 9,000 children and youth in out-of-home care in Kentucky. Current families are overwhelmingly available for children between the ages of 0 and 5 years (77%); however, only 12% are available for youth between 12 and 21 years. Older youth, sibling groups and medically complex children are among the hardest to place and are the toughest for whom to secure adoptive placements. Are you willing and able to meet the needs of the children in Kentucky's out-of-home care?

To learn more and begin the process of becoming an approved foster or adoptive home, please find the attached training schedule for your region. If you would like to attend trainings outside of your region, please contact your local DCBS office for additional training locations and dates.

We look forward to meeting you and having the opportunity to tell you more about the types of children who need foster and adoptive homes in your community.

You can learn more about our foster care and adoption programs by:

- visiting KYFaces.ky.gov
- Attending an informational meeting
- Contacting your local DCBS office

Regional Foster Care and Adoption Contacts

Eastern Mountain Region (Breathitt, Floyd, Johnson, Knott, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Owsley, Perry, Pike & Wolfe)
(606)433-7596 or (606)349-3123

Jefferson Region (Jefferson)
(502)595-KIDS (5437)

Northeastern Region (Bath, Boyd, Bracken, Carter, Elliott, Flemming, Greenup, Lawrence, Lewis, Mason, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Robertson & Rowan)
(606)783-8555 or (502)892-4159

Northern Bluegrass Region (Boone, Bourbon, Campbell, Carroll, Gallatin, Grant, Harrison, Kenton, Nicholas, Owen, Pendleton & Scott)
(859)292-6632, ext 231 or (502)863-0565

Salt River Trail Region (Anderson, Breckenridge, Bullitt, Franklin, Grayson, Hardin, Henry, Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, Trimble, Washington & Woodford)
(502-633-2055 or (270)766-5099

Southern Bluegrass Region (Boyle, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Garrard, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer & Powell)
(859)971-4411

The Cumberland Region (Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Wayne & Whitley)
(606)256-2138, (606)598-4567 or (606)528-4234

The Lakes Region (Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, Muhlenberg, Trigg & Todd)
(270)247-2979

Two Rivers Region (Allen, Barren, Butler, Daviess, Edmonson, Hancock, Hart, Henderson, Logan, McLean, Metcalfe, Monroe, Ohio, Simpson, Union, Warren & Webster)
(270)687-7491 or (270)746-7447

Kentucky Department for Community Based Services

July 2022 Foster Care/Adoption Informational Meetings

All meetings will be held at local time. Learn more about foster care and adoption in Kentucky at [KYFACES.ky.gov](https://www.kyfaces.ky.gov)

July

July 5, 6pm-8pm Salt River Trail Region. Contact Casey.Gilbert@ky.gov or Melinda.Norris@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Anderson, Breckenridge, Bullitt, Franklin, Grayson, Hardin, Henry, Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, Trimble, Washington, and Woodford.

July 5, 6pm-8pm Two Rivers Region (North). Contact Jeff.Humphrey@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Butler, Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Ohio, Union and Webster.

July 7, 5:30pm-7:30pm Eastern Mountain Region. Contact Wilma.Bentley@ky.gov or Alice.Martin@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Breathitt, Floyd, Johnson, Knott, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Owsley, Perry, Pike and Wolfe.

July 9, 1pm-3pm Southern Bluegrass Region. Contact Andrew.Holt@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Boyle, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Garrard, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Powell.

July 9, 9am-11am Northern Bluegrass Region. Contact Jennifer.Wiehe@ky.gov or Roxanne.Noland@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Boone, Bourbon, Campbell, Carol, Gallatin, Grant, Harrison, Kenton, Nicholas, Owen, Pendleton & Scott.

July 10, 12:30pm-2:30pm Jefferson Region. Hosted by Orphan Care Alliance at Third Avenue Baptist Church, 1726 S. Third Street, Louisville, KY 40208. Register at www.orphancarealliance.org/events

July 11, 5:30pm-7:30pm The Lakes Region. Contact JHarber@ky.gov or Shawn.Johnson@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, Muhlenberg, Trigg and Todd.

July 12, 5:30pm-7:30pm The Lakes Region. Contact JHarber@ky.gov or Shawn.Johnson@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, Muhlenberg, Trigg and Todd.

July 14, 6pm-8pm Northeastern Region. Hosted by Orphan Care Alliance at Rosehill Baptist, 1001 Winslow Road, Ashland, KY 41102. Register at www.orphancarealliance.org/events

July 15, 10am-12pm Jefferson Region. Contact Jessica.Sims@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Jefferson

July 11, 6pm-8pm Cumberland Region (West). Contact Rhonda.Cantrell@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Wayne and Whitley.

July 20, 6:30pm-8:30pm Jefferson Region. Contact Jessica.Sims@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Jefferson

July 20, 6pm-8pm Cumberland Region (East). Contact Jennifern.White@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Wayne and Whitley.

July 27, 6pm-8pm Two Rivers Region. Hosted by Orphan Care Alliance at Crossland Community Church Glasgow Campus, 217 S L Rogers Wells Blvd, Glasgow, KY 42141. Register at www.orphancarealliance.org/events

August

August 1, 6pm-8pm Two Rivers Region (North). Contact Jeff.Humphrey@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Butler, Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Ohio, Union and Webster.

August 2, 6pm-8pm Northeastern Region. Contact Sarah.Reed@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Bath, Boyd, Bracken, Carter, Elliott, Fleming, Greenup, Lawrence, Lewis, Mason, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Robertson, Rowan.

August 2, 5:30pm-7:30pm Eastern Mountain Region. Contact Wilma.Bentley@ky.gov or Alice.Martin@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Breathitt, Floyd, Johnson, Knott, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Owsley, Perry, Pike and Wolfe.

August 3, 6pm-8pm Southern Bluegrass Region. Contact Andrew.Holt@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Boyle, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Garrard, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Powell.

August 8, 5:30pm-7:30pm The Lakes Region. Contact JHarber@ky.gov or Shawn.Johnson@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, Muhlenberg, Trigg and Todd.

August 9, 6pm-8pm Cumberland Region. Hosted by Orphan Care Alliance at Corinth Baptist Church, 1671 Old Whitley Rd. London, KY. Register at www.orphancarealliance.org/events

August 9, 6pm-8pm Salt River Trail Region. Contact Casey.Gilbert@ky.gov or Melinda.Norris@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Anderson, Breckenridge, Bullitt, Franklin, Grayson, Hardin, Henry, Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, Trimble, Washington, and Woodford.

August 10, 12pm-2pm Cumberland Region (West). Contact Rhonda.Cantrell@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Wayne and Whitley.

August 12, 6pm-7:30pm Southern Bluegrass Region. Hosted by Orphan Care Alliance at Gospel Collective Church 2601 Clays Mill Rd. Lexington, KY. Register at www.orphancarealliance.org/events

August 13, 9am-11am* Northern Bluegrass Region. Contact Jennifer.Wiehe@ky.gov or Roxanne.Noland@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Boone, Bourbon, Campbell, Carol, Gallatin, Grant, Harrison, Kenton, Nicholas, Owen, Pendleton & Scott. *First pre-service class to follow 11am-3:30pm

August 15, 6pm-8pm Cumberland Region (East). Contact Jennifern.White@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Wayne and Whitley.

August 15, 6pm-8pm Two Rivers Region (North). Contact Jeff.Humphrey@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Butler, Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Ohio, Union and Webster.

August 18, 6pm-8pm Two Rivers Region (South). Contact Michaelle.Johnson@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Allen, Barren, Edmonson, Hart, Logan, Monroe, Metcalfe, Simpson and Warren.

August 19, 10am-12pm Jefferson Region. Contact Jessica.Sims@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Jefferson

August 24, 6:30pm-8:30pm Jefferson Region. Contact Jessica.Sims@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Jefferson

September

September 6, 5:30pm-7:30pm Eastern Mountain Region. Contact Wilma.Bentley@ky.gov or Alice.Martin@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Breathitt, Floyd, Johnson, Knott, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Owsley, Perry, Pike and Wolfe.

September 6, 6pm-8pm Salt River Trail Region. Contact Casey.Gilbert@ky.gov or Melinda.Norris@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Anderson, Breckenridge, Bullitt, Franklin, Grayson, Hardin, Henry, Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, Trimble, Washington, and Woodford.

September 6, 6pm-8pm Two Rivers Region (North). Contact Jeff.Humphrey@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Butler, Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Ohio, Union and Webster.

September 12, 6pm-8pm Cumberland Region (West). Contact Rhonda.Cantrell@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Wayne and Whitley.

September 12, 5:30pm-7:30pm The Lakes Region. Contact JHarber@ky.gov or Shawn.Johnson@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, Muhlenberg, Trigg and Todd.

September 13, 5:30pm-7:30pm The Lakes Region. Contact JHarber@ky.gov or Shawn.Johnson@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, Muhlenberg, Trigg and Todd.

September 13, 6pm-8pm Southern Bluegrass Region. Contact Andrew.Holt@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Boyle, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Garrard, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Powell.

September 13, 6pm-8pm Northeastern Region. Contact Sarah.Reed@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Bath, Boyd, Bracken, Carter, Elliott, Fleming, Greenup, Lawrence, Lewis, Mason, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Robertson, Rowan.

September 15, 6pm-9pm Northern Bluegrass Region. Contact Jennifer.Wiehe@ky.gov or Roxanne.Noland@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Boone, Bourbon, Campbell, Carol, Gallatin, Grant, Harrison, Kenton, Nicholas, Owen, Pendleton & Scott.

September 16, 10am-12pm Jefferson Region. Contact Jessica.Sims@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Jefferson

September 21, 6pm-8pm Cumberland Region (East). Contact Jennifern.White@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Wayne and Whitley.

September 28, 6:30pm-8:30pm Jefferson Region. Contact Jessica.Sims@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Jefferson

October

October 3, 6pm-8pm Two Rivers Region (North). Contact Jeff.Humphrey@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Butler, Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Ohio, Union and Webster.

October 4, 6pm-8pm Northeastern Region. Contact Sarah.Reed@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Bath, Boyd, Bracken, Carter, Elliott, Fleming, Greenup, Lawrence, Lewis, Mason, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Robertson, Rowan.

October 4, 6pm-8pm Salt River Trail Region. Contact Casey.Gilbert@ky.gov or Melinda.Norris@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Anderson, Breckenridge, Bullitt, Franklin, Grayson, Hardin, Henry, Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, Trimble, Washington, and Woodford.

October 4, 5:30pm-7:30pm Eastern Mountain Region. Contact Wilma.Bentley@ky.gov or Alice.Martin@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Breathitt, Floyd, Johnson, Knott, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Owsley, Perry, Pike and Wolfe.

October 5, 12pm-2pm Cumberland Region (West). Contact Rhonda.Cantrell@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Wayne and Whitley.

October 6, 6pm-8pm Southern Bluegrass Region. Contact Andrew.Holt@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Boyle, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Garrard, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Powell.

October 8, 9am-11am* Northern Bluegrass Region. Contact Jennifer.Wiehe@ky.gov or Roxanne.Noland@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Boone, Bourbon, Campbell, Carol, Gallatin, Grant, Harrison, Kenton, Nicholas, Owen, Pendleton & Scott. *First pre-service meeting to follow from 11am-3:30pm

October 10, 5:30pm-7:30pm The Lakes Region. Contact JHarber@ky.gov or Shawn.Johnson@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, Muhlenberg, Trigg and Todd.

October 11, 5:30pm-7:30pm The Lakes Region. Contact JHarber@ky.gov or Shawn.Johnson@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, Muhlenberg, Trigg and Todd.

October 11, 6pm-8pm Northern Bluegrass Region. Hosted by Orphan Care Alliance at Safe Harbor Baptist Church 519 Gano Ave. Georgetown, KY. Register at www.orphancarealliance.org/events

October 14, 10am-12pm Jefferson Region. Contact Jessica.Sims@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Jefferson

October 18, 6pm-8pm The Lakes Region. Hosted by Orphan Care Alliance at Edgewood Baptist Church 2300 Cadiz Rd. Hopkinsville, KY. Register at www.orphancarealliance.org/events

October 18, 6pm-8pm Two Rivers Region (South). Contact Michaelle.Johnson@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Allen, Barren, Edmonson, Hart, Logan, Monroe, Metcalfe, Simpson and Warren.

October 19, 6:30pm-8:30pm Jefferson Region. Contact Jessica.Sims@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Jefferson

October 19, 6pm-8pm Cumberland Region (East). Contact Jennifern.White@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Wayne and Whitley.

October 27, 6pm-8pm Southern Bluegrass Region. Hosted by Orphan Care Alliance at Immanuel Baptist Church-Armstrong Mill Campus 2261 Armstrong Mill Rd. Lexington, KY 40515. Register at www.orphancarealliance.org/events

October 27, 6pm-8pm Two Rivers Region. Hosted by Orphan Care Alliance at Bellevue Baptist Church 4950 Kentucky 56 Owensboro, KY. Register at www.orphancarealliance.org/events

October 27, 6pm-8pm Eastern Mountain Region. Hosted by Orphan Care Alliance at Cornerstone Christian Church 222 Hambley Blvd. Pikeville, KY. Register at www.orphancarealliance.org/events

October 29, 9am-11am Southern Bluegrass Region. Contact Andrew.Holt@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Boyle, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Garrard, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Powell.

November

November 1, 6pm-8pm Jefferson Region. Hosted by Orphan Care Alliance at Ninth & O Baptist Church 4401 Breckenridge Ln. Louisville, KY. Register at www.orphancarealliance.org/events

November 1, 6pm-8pm Northeastern Region. Contact Sarah.Reed@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Bath, Boyd, Bracken, Carter, Elliott, Fleming, Greenup, Lawrence, Lewis, Mason, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Robertson, Rowan.

November 5, 9a-11am* Salt River Trail Region. Contact Casey.Gilbert@ky.gov or Melinda.Norris@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Anderson, Breckenridge, Bullitt, Franklin, Grayson, Hardin, Henry, Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, Trimble, Washington, and Woodford. *First informational meeting to follow 11am-4pm

November 7, 6pm-8pm Two Rivers Region (North). Contact Jeff.Humphrey@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Butler, Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Ohio, Union and Webster.

November 7, 5:30pm-7:30pm Eastern Mountain Region. Contact Wilma.Bentley@ky.gov or Alice.Martin@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Breathitt, Floyd, Johnson, Knott, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Owsley, Perry, Pike and Wolfe.

November 7, 6pm-8pm Cumberland Region (West). Contact Rhonda.Cantrell@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Wayne and Whitley.

November 8, 5:30pm-7:30pm The Lakes Region. Contact JHarber@ky.gov or Shawn.Johnson@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, Muhlenberg, Trigg and Todd.

November 11, 10am-12pm Jefferson Region. Contact Jessica.Sims@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Jefferson

November 14, 5:30pm-7:30pm The Lakes Region. Contact JHarber@ky.gov or Shawn.Johnson@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, Muhlenberg, Trigg and Todd.

November 14, 6pm-9pm Northern Bluegrass Region. Contact Jennifer.Wiehe@ky.gov or Roxanne.Noland@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Boone, Bourbon, Campbell, Carol, Gallatin, Grant, Harrison, Kenton, Nicholas, Owen, Pendleton & Scott.

November 16, 6:30pm-8:30pm Jefferson Region. Contact Jessica.Sims@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Jefferson

November 29, 5:30pm-7:30pm Eastern Mountain Region. Contact Wilma.Bentley@ky.gov or Alice.Martin@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Breathitt, Floyd, Johnson, Knott, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Owsley, Perry, Pike and Wolfe.

November 30, 6pm-8pm Cumberland Region (East). Contact Jennifern.White@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Wayne and Whitley.

December

December 5, 12pm-2pm Cumberland Region (West). Contact Rhonda.Cantrell@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Wayne and Whitley.

December 5, 6pm-8pm Two Rivers Region (North). Contact Jeff.Humphrey@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Butler, Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Ohio, Union and Webster.

December 6, 6pm-8pm Salt River Trail Region. Contact Casey.Gilbert@ky.gov or Melinda.Norris@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Anderson, Breckenridge, Bullitt, Franklin, Grayson, Hardin, Henry, Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, Trimble, Washington, and Woodford.

December 6, 6pm-8pm Northeastern Region. Contact Sarah.Reed@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Bath, Boyd, Bracken, Carter, Elliott, Fleming, Greenup, Lawrence, Lewis, Mason, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Robertson, Rowan.

December 9, 10am-12pm Jefferson Region. Contact Jessica.Sims@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Jefferson

December 12, 6pm-8pm Cumberland Region (East). Contact Jennifern.White@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Harlan, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Wayne and Whitley.

December 12, 5:30pm-7:30pm The Lakes Region. Contact JHarber@ky.gov or Shawn.Johnson@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, Muhlenberg, Trigg and Todd.

December 13, 5:30pm-7:30pm The Lakes Region. Contact JHarber@ky.gov or Shawn.Johnson@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, Muhlenberg, Trigg and Todd.

December 14, 6:30pm-8:30pm Jefferson Region. Contact Jessica.Sims@ky.gov for more information or to register. Counties: Jefferson

Department for Community Based Services
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about being a foster parent...

1. How do I become a foster parent?

For more information describing the steps to becoming a foster parent, please view [Fall in Love with Foster Care and Adoption](#) or contact your local Department for Community Based Services office.

What are the training requirements?

All adults in the home, who will be caring for children, must attend a 2-hour informational session and 15-hours of pre-service classes (Building Foundations for Successful Parenting).

2. Do you have to be married?

No, you can be married, single, divorced, widowed or be a co-parent. However, if you are presenting as a couple, both must go through the approval process.

3. Do you have to own your own home?

No, you can rent. But you must have adequate space available and your landlord's approval to care for foster children.

4. Can you be a foster parent if you work?

Yes. Extra help for the cost of day care may be available.

5. What happens after I have received my packet of information?

You should read through the information in the packet, then attend an information meeting designed to answer any questions you may have about foster care or adoption. Please call your local Department for Community Based Services office at the number provided in your packet or (800) 232-KIDS (5437) for times and dates of information meeting.

6. What are the qualifications for becoming a foster parent?

- Applicants must be at least 21 years old.
- Foster/Adoptive parents can be married or single.
- Foster/Adoptive families should be financially stable and have an income sufficient to meet the family's needs.
- Applicants must be able to provide a safe, secure and healthy home for a child.
- Foster/Adoptive parents must be in good physical and mental health.
- All adults in the home must complete criminal background checks including FBI, sex offender registry and a check of the child abuse registry.
- All applicants must complete training to help them understand the needs of children in foster care.

7. Can I get financial help from the state to care for a foster child?

- To meet the needs of children placed in their home, foster parents receive:
- Financial assistance in the form of a daily rate
- Medical coverage for the children
- Daycare assistance for working parents
- Other assistance provided to meet the specialized needs of children on a case by case basis.

8. What are the different types of foster homes?

- Basic foster homes
- Medically Complex Homes – for children with medical challenges
- Specialized Medically Complex Homes – for children with medical and emotional challenges
- Degreed Medically Complex Homes – for children with medical challenges in which the primary caretaker is a health care professional.
- Care Plus Foster Home – for children who have emotional or behavioral challenges.

9. What is respite care?

The law defines respite care as “temporary care provided by another family or individual to provide relief to a foster or adoptive parent with the expectation of the child's return to the current foster or adoptive home”.

10. What kind of training do I need to become a foster parent?

The Department for Community Based Services provides training that meets the needs of foster parents. Foster parents are required to receive a minimum of fifteen hours approved curriculum training and fifteen hours of pre-service web-based training to becoming a foster parent. Approved foster and adoptive families must complete a minimum of ten hours of ongoing training each year.

11. Do I have a choice regarding the children placed in my home?

Yes. We want to ensure that the needs of the children placed in the home are compatible with the strengths of the foster parents.

12. Can people on public assistance become foster parents?

Applicants will be expected to have an income sufficient to meet their present family needs and to insure the stability of the family unit.

13. Can I be approved to foster or adopt a relative, for example, a grandchild?

A child may be placed with a relative when it is in the best interest of the child. To be eligible for the assistance provided to foster parents, a relative foster home must meet the same requirements for training and ongoing approval as nonrelative homes. The majority of children who are placed with relatives do so outside of the foster care system, and the family does not need to become approved to foster or adopt.

14. Once I become a foster parent, are there other foster parents I can contact for advice and support?

Kentucky offers foster parent peer support through programs such as:

- The Kentucky Foster and Adoptive Training Support Network
- The Foster Parent Mentor Program
- Adoption Support for Kentucky

15. May I take a foster child into my home and then adopt him or her?

Maybe. Foster care is temporary care with the goal of reuniting the child with his or her birth family. Three out of four foster children do go home and it is important for foster parents to help the child successfully reunite with his or her birth parents while helping the child during such a tumultuous time. In the event that the child's goal changes to adoption, the foster family may apply to adopt. Many adoptions in Kentucky are foster parent adoptions. In selecting adoptive families, the best interest of the child is always of the utmost importance. Therefore, many factors have to be considered. For example, does the child need to be adopted with his or her siblings who may be in other foster homes? Your R&C worker can help you in deciding whether to explore this option.

16. Is a child's background available to adoptive parents?

All known relevant information about the child's educational, medical or developmental history is provided to the foster parent.

17. We have pets, is that a problem?

This is not a problem unless the child is allergic or scared.

18. I don't think I fit the typical foster or adoptive family model.

Actually, there's no typical model. Some of our foster families are single-parent families. Some have kids in their home while others don't. Some older foster parents have already raised their own family, but want to open their hearts and homes to more kids. Some are homeowners, and some are renters. Our parents come from all racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds and sexual orientations.

19. How long is a foster care placement?

A child's placement may be for as short as an overnight stay or longer than a year.

20. What happens when the child returns home?

A foster child's return home is usually the ultimate goal. The foster parent will have the opportunity to participate in the planning and to say goodbye to the foster child. This can be a difficult time, but the child's return home represents a success. Returning home is the goal for most children in foster care. You will play an integral role in helping the child and family successfully transition.