

What is a Home Study?



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Services

Family Choices, NFPC offers many valuable services to adopting parent(s) including:

- Domestic and International Home Studies
- Adoption Education Classes
- Post Placement Services
- Foster Care Licensing
- Adoption Placement
- Subsidy Processing Assistance
- International Adoption Services
- Interstate Adoption Services
- Other Related Services

Family Choices, NFPC and You!

Building loving families one home at a time

What is a Home Study?

When people think about the term home study it can conger up images of some social worker coming through your home with a “white glove” inspecting every nook and cranny of you house. This image is just not true. The home study is an



important part of the adoption process that helps you prepare for the new addition to

your family. The home study focuses on many different aspects of your family’s life. It is also a legal requirement that will help insure that the adoption placement is right for you and the child/ren you are adopting. It is not scary! Our adoption specialist are here to help you through the home study to ensure you and your home are ready for your wonderful new family addition.

In a nut shell, the home study is a written report that fulfills the legal, social, and ethical responsibilities for the preparation of a new child/ren into your lives. The questions can sometimes be sensitive, but remember, our staff is here to help you through the home study, and help you reach your end goal, a new child/ren entering into your loving and caring family.

The Home Study Process?

There is currently no standard format to a home study. There are legal and other requirements that must be addressed throughout the home study process, but basically your home study will include:

- Your background, including your family, siblings, and important events in your life
- If other children are in the home, their ages, health, and their feelings about gaining a sibling
- You and your relationships with the other important people in you life
- Your relationship as a couple, if applicable, and how you get along and resolve conflict
- Why you want to adopt
- How you think life will be with the addition of a child/ren
- What you see for the child’s future
- Your parenting ideas
- The safety and readiness of your home for a new child/ren
- Adoption educational requirements, which need to be

completed within the first 6 months of the adoption process.

- How extended family feels about adoption
- How you live day to day
- Your physical health
- Your education
- Your attitude towards education
- Employment and finances
- Any criminal or child abuse background
- And other related topics

It may sound like a lot, or may sound invasive, but the process is really designed to help you in preparing all aspects of your life for the new addition to your family. You and our adoption specialist will go through every aspect of the paperwork process, so remember you are not in this alone.

Conclusion

The home study is the way legal requirements are fulfilled, but it is much more than that. It is a tool to help you prepare for the arrival of your new family addition, and as we all know preparation is the key to success!!!