



Home Study – A certification/licensing worker will conduct a licensing study to assess your family, parenting, ability to plan long term for the relative child and to ensure that your home meets licensing standards and is a safe environment for children in foster care. The worker will observe and verify the following:

There are enough beds- there are no more than 2 same gendered related children sharing a bed. If 2 related children share a bed it must be larger than a twin bed.

The bedrooms have a window that is large enough to be used for egress; finished ceiling; floor-to-ceiling permanently affixed walls, and finished flooring; e.g., carpeted, finished wood.

The caregiver(s) agrees to follow the behavior management plan developed for each child by the agency, which includes refraining from the use of corporal punishment.

All entrances/exits to and from the home are unobstructed.

The conditions of the home meet the child's health care needs; e.g., child has allergies to smoke and the household is smoke free.

The home is free from observable health/sanitation risks; e.g., flushable toilets, unsoiled mattresses.

The home is free from observable safety hazards; e.g., broken windows, exposed wires.

All cleaning supplies, medicines, and/or any other dangerous chemicals are inaccessible.

There is an accessible working phone in the home (includes cell phone).

Basic utilities- water, electricity, heating- are in operating condition.

The caregiver(s) is able to manage his/her own daily living activities, e.g., preparing meals, housekeeping, shopping for groceries, bathing.

The caregiver(s) has an adequate support system to help him/her care for an additional member of the household.

There have been reported incidents of domestic violence or there is a history of domestic violence involving the caregiver(s) or any other household member.

The caregiver(s) or any other household member has a substance/alcohol concern or has a history of substance/alcohol abuse and/or treatment.

The caregiver(s) has a mental and/or emotional health condition that would impair his/her ability to provide for the child(ren)'s safety and well-being.

The caregiver(s) has a physical health condition that would affect the care of the child(ren) in the home or the caregiver(s) receives home health services. (Home health services requires an individual to assist the caregiver with daily living activities.)

There are weapons and/or ammunition in the home.

(Only answer if yes to above) All weapons and ammunition are locked-up in a separate room and inaccessible to children.

The caregiver is being considered for an infant 0-12 months of age.

(Only answer if yes to above) The caregiver has been informed of safe sleep guidelines, was provided the Infant Safe Sleep brochure, and has agreed to follow guidelines of safe sleep practice.

Training – All adult caregivers in the household must complete a minimum of 12 hours of training before licensure. Once licensed, there will be additional annual training requirements.

Fingerprints – All caregivers living in your home will be fingerprinted to conduct a criminal history check. Other adults living in the household will have to submit to a check of Michigan State Police criminal history records. There will be a review of child abuse and neglect records for all adults living in your home. The Sex Offender Registry will also be checked for adults and youth who are members of the household or give the home as their address.

References – You must provide references from three unrelated persons who can attest to your character and suitability for becoming a licensed foster home.

Health of Family – All members of your household must provide medical statements as part of the licensing process.

Discipline – You must follow the behavior management plan developed for each child by the agency which includes refraining from the use of physical discipline.

Valid Driver's license – All household members transporting a child must have a valid driver's license and active auto insurance.



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