

LICENSING PROCESS

The State of Wisconsin requires the use of the SAFE Home Study Licensing tool to be utilized to become a foster parent. The timeframe to be licensed varies per household, but on average it is usually two to three months. During the SAFE home study process, you, as a prospective foster parent, will need to complete an application and participate in a series of in-person interviews in your home. Your licensing social worker will:

- Discuss the reasons you are interested in fostering children and assess how fostering may impact you and your family members
- Gather information about your parenting skills and abilities to learn what strengths and attributions you can provide to a child who has been through traumatic experiences
- Discuss your upbringing and personal experiences to understand how your childhood and life experiences affects and shapes you as an adult and parent
- Discuss relationships within your family including present and former significant others, children, and extended family
- Complete a thorough criminal background check on all household members
- Complete reference checks on your family
- Inspect your home to ensure that is it up to code and satisfies the State's requirements, Wisconsin Administrative Code DCF-56 Foster Care for Children, to meet the needs of the children in your home
- Verify your health by receiving documentation from your medical provider
- Verify proof of homeowner's/renter's insurance and automobile insurance
- Ensure all pets are up to date on vaccinations
- Verify proof of income



FOSTER CARE

It's not just the child's life that changes



**WASHINGTON
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