

The 15 Steps of Licensing

The process of licensing for foster care is a defined series of events, documents and approvals. Ryther TFC is able to walk you through the entire process from start to finish. The typical process takes about 3 months.

Here are the basic 15 steps to become a licensed foster home

To begin the process, the following must be submitted together:

1. Complete *background authorization* forms for each person in your home age 16 or older and submit to your Licensor immediately as the clearance process may take several months.
2. Complete and submit the *Application for Foster Family Home Care*.
3. Demonstrate financial stability and independence from foster care subsidies with copy of recent tax return and income verification

Within the next 90 days:

4. Everyone in the household age 18 or older will complete the following:
 - CPR and First Aid training
 - TB testing or a copy of test results within the past year
5. Foster Parent applicants will complete the following:
 - HIV/AIDS/Bloodborne Pathogens training
 - Foster Parent Orientation and PRIDE training
 - Ryther Child Center offers all above trainings free of charge
6. Complete the Foster Parent Questionnaire for each parent and participate in the home study process
7. Provide, if requested, a written statement from a physician, psychiatrist or therapist regarding health or parenting stability
8. Provide immunization records for each child in the home under 18
9. Provide veterinary document of current vaccinations and health of pets
10. Complete the home inspection with the your licensor to assure your home meets Washington Administrative Code requirements
11. Comply with any requests to make changes in the home per WAC guidelines
12. Provide four personal references from people who can speak to the family's ability to be therapeutic foster parents
13. Provide copies of current driver's licenses and proof of insurance for applicants and for anyone who will transport the foster child

After your license is approved:

14. We will walk you through the Placement Process that identifies the best child for your home, giving you all the necessary information you need to make an informed decision and to commit to a foster child placement
15. You and the team will create a transition plan for the child's move to your home. This process usually consists of 2-4 short visits, and 2-3 overnight visits, followed by the final move.