



# Relative & Like-Kin Transition to Public Adoption: Assessment Requirements

## Background

Public adoption professionals are responsible for ensuring all requirements for adoption are met prior to adoption finalization through the public adoption program.

The licensing and assessment requirements for relatives and like-kin to receive a Level 2 foster home license do not meet all of the requirements necessary for adoption finalization.

A SAFE Home Study Assessment is required for all families adopting through the public adoption program. Relative and like-kin providers assessed using the Relative and Like-Kin Foster Home Licensing Assessment must be assessed using all components of the SAFE Home Study Assessment prior to adoption finalization.

## How are relative and like-kin families assessed when they transition to the public adoption program?

It depends on whether or not they have previously been assessed using the SAFE Home Study Assessment.

- If the family has an approved comprehensive SAFE Home Study Assessment, the public adoption professional working with the family should complete a SAFE Home Study Assessment Update.
- If the family has not previously been assessed using all components of the SAFE Home Study Assessment, the public adoption professional working with the family will complete a comprehensive SAFE Home Study Assessment. The public adoption professional may use the Relative and Like-Kin Foster Home Licensing Assessment to inform the SAFE Home Study Assessment.

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### Required for Assessment

SAFE Home Study Assessment

- All Components

Verification of Vital Documents

- Birth Records\*
- Marriage, Divorce, Naturalization

Verification of Finances

Reference Checks

Health Assessment\*

\*Documentation needed for all household members

### Pre-Adoptive Training

Twenty-five hours of pre-adoption training is required for all adoptive parents prior to adoption finalization. Six of those hours must be child-specific.

### Married Couples

If married, a couple must be assessed together. A married individual may not adopt independently from their spouse.