



PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Please answer the following questions. There is no right or wrong answer. As you begin the process of adoption, you will want to use many ways to help you expand how you see yourself, your family, and your relationships with others. Use a separate sheet of paper for your answers. For married applicants, you may respond together.

1. Please tell us about how you came to apply for adoption. When did you first think about adoption? What circumstances have brought you to adoption at this time?
2. What has been your experience with other members of the adoption triad: birth parents, adoptive parents and adoptees? Do you have children who came into your family through adoption? If so, can you tell us the type of adoption – step parent, private attorney domestic, foster care, international (what country)? Can you also please briefly explain how the adoption process went for you? Was it smooth or were there difficulties? What were those difficulties?
3. Please describe the various reactions you've had from friends and family when you told them of your interest in adding a child to your family through adoption. Please tell us a little bit about the people you consider to be your 'support network.'
4. If you are coming to adoption after experiencing infertility, please explain the process you've gone through since you've started trying to add a child to your family. What support have you had during the difficult time of trying to conceive? What things have you done to cope with the feelings that infertility raises in an individual and in a couple (if married).
5. How do you see your life, your family, and your world view changing as a result of adoption? What do you think will stay the same? What might change?
6. It is important to become educated about the dynamics of adoption and the impact of adoption on a family. Have you read any books or articles or have you attended any informational meetings or seminars about adoption?
7. What type of child do you want to parent? Is it important that the child look like you? Do you feel the child needs to be of the same race or nationality as you? If you are specifically planning to adopt cross-culturally or trans-racially, please discuss what thought you have given to this. How have you or will you prepare to parent a child of a different culture and/or race? What sorts of resources would you like to have in place or know about before your child comes home? Do you have a gender preference? If so, why? How important are these things to significant people in your life?
8. What do you want to learn or experience before your adopted child comes to live with you?
9. What are your greatest fears, worries, or concerns with regards to the adoption process or parenting an adopted child?
10. Families adopting internationally are asked to name guardians for their adopted child. Please tell us about the guardian(s) you have chosen for this purpose. Please include their names, ages, health condition, occupations and estimate of income, and any children.



AUTOBIOGRAPHY

The goal of this most critical document is to have you tell the story of your life, highlighting meaningful events, emphasizing values, describing your family. Consider the topics below as you write your autobiography. Each applicant writes a separate autobiography. Use a separate sheet of paper for your answers.

1. Please describe yourself. How do others perceive you?
2. Please give an overview of your childhood including social relationships and special interests.
3. Describe your family, parents (including their occupations), siblings, and extended family. Please include your parents' and siblings' full names and ages. Consider how discipline was handled in your home. What kinds of activities do you participate in individually or as a family? What are some of your most memorable family experiences (positive or negative) and their impact on you? How are your relationships with your family members now as an adult?
4. Please give an overview of your school history from preschool to college including things which made a lifelong impression for you.
5. If married, how did you meet your spouse? Describe your marriage. What attracted you to your spouse? How do you resolve conflict? What interests do you share? Have you ever experienced a separation or divorce? If so, please discuss its effect on your life and/or current relationship(s). If not married, please describe your relationship history and your interests in future relationships.
6. Describe your current social relationships. Please include descriptions about those who will be supporting you during the long process of adoption and those who will be role models for your future child(ren).
7. Please briefly describe your job history. Do you have specific goals that you aspire to with regards to your career? Please include information about any military history.
8. Please describe your religious interests/spiritual beliefs. How will these be presented to your child(ren)?
9. Please include anything else that is important for us to know about you.