

# Legal permanency adoption

## Adopting a child in permanent government care.

Use this process if you wish to adopt a child/sibling group who is in permanent government care and available for adoption placement. Children are matched for adoption with families who are trained and approved by Alberta Children Services. There are no costs to the applicant in applying, becoming approved or being placed with a child. The timeframe from application to approval for adoption can vary from 3 to 12 months. The timeframe from approval to placement of child cannot be predicted.

To adopt a child, you must be an Alberta resident; be at least 18 years old; demonstrate financial and domestic stability; and be physically and mentally capable of parenting an adopted child.



### 1 Contact

- [Alberta \(AB\) Adoption Services](#)
- [licensed adoption agency](#)
- [Children's Services \(CS\) office](#)



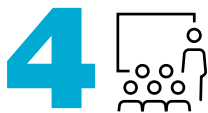
### 2 Decision

Attend an information session or visit your local CS office to learn about the adoption process, the criteria to apply and the steps to becoming approved.



### 3 Apply

Complete and submit the application to your local CS office. Instructions on submitting supporting documents will be provided at that time.



### 4 Decision

Complete training required as part of your approval for adoption.



### 5 Home study report

You, your caseworker and assigned home study writer will work collaboratively to complete the home study process. The home study writer will make a recommendation to CS to approve or not approve you, based on a full assessment of the information gathered in the home study report. CS will evaluate the findings of the assessment and then determine your approval.



### 6 Wait for match

Should you be approved, an adoption worker will be assigned to support you with adoption readiness activities and the matching process. When a match has been identified for you, a collaborative process of evaluating the suitability of the match will take place.

**Note:** Matching is based on a child's needs and your capacity to parent such a child. The wait time cannot be predicted, and there is no guarantee that you'll be matched with a child.



### 7 Placed with a child

A staged process to determine the match is the right one for you and the child will allow you and the child's worker to make an informed decision on proceeding with placement of the child in your home. Once a child is placed in your home, support is provided by CS for the period of time necessary to ensure a positive transition and adjustment of the child and the family as a whole.



### 8 Finalize

When you and your adoption worker are ready to finalize, your adoption worker will prepare and file the adoption application at the Court of Queen's Bench. The granting of the adoption order is subject to court timeliness and processes.



### 9 Post-adoption service

Families who have adopted a child in permanent government care are eligible for financial supports through the Supports for Permanency program.

Adult adoptees, birth parents, birth family members and adoptive parents can access Alberta adoption records and information through the Post Adoption Registry (PAR).

#### Legend

- Process with predictable timelines.
- Process with unpredictable timelines.