



**Level 1 Licensed Foster Home:
Child Specific Foster Home Certification
Welcome Packet & Training Information for Foster Parents**

Greeting from the Director:

Welcome from all of us at the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System! Our mission here is one of support and service: promoting best child-welfare practice through education, skill development, strategic partnerships, and effective advocacy. Our vision and subsequent hope is that every child, youth, and family in Wisconsin experiences an enhanced quality of life complete with opportunity and supportive communities. We recognize that an enormous part of fulfilling that vision starts with you, those families who have opened their hearts and homes to children in need of foster placement. Our role is to support **you** in becoming the very best foster parent you can be. We are subsequently committed to serving our foster families through exceptional professional development opportunities that are available, accessible, and of high quality.

As a new foster parent, you have access to an array of professional development opportunities that we offer. That journey begins with the web-based *Foster Parent Pre-Placement Training*, which must be completed within 6 months of the date your license is issued. While Level 1 licensed foster parents have no additional training requirements, you are welcome to attend any *Foundation* or ongoing foster parent training provided. All of this and more is outlined in greater detail within this *Welcome Packet*. Trust that your foster care coordinator/licensor will be there to guide you through every step of this foster parenting process. They are there to answer your questions, support your efforts, and ensure you meet requirements for licensure.

Welcome aboard! We are so grateful to have you as part of this team.

Darin Smith, Executive Director
Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System
University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Social Work

Level 1 Licensed Foster Home: Child Specific Foster Home Certification (sometimes referred to as Kinship Care or Like-Kin Care) is issued to a relative of a child or to an individual who has a previous existing relationship with the child or the child’s family.

This guide describes the training rule for Level 1 licensed foster homes and provides guidance on how to access the training sessions to fulfill your training requirements.

		Level 1
Pre-Placement Curriculum	Foster Care Overview	Pre-Placement: 6 hours
	Expectations of Foster Care	
	Caring for Children in Foster Care	
	Developing and Maintaining Family Connections	
	Foster Family Self-Care	
Foundation Curriculum	Permanency	Initial Licensing: Not Required
	Cultural Dynamics	
	Child Abuse and Neglect	
	Effects of Maltreatment on Development	
	Attachment	
	Separation and Placement	
	Importance of Family Connections	
	Guidance and Positive Discipline	
	Access to Resources	
Ongoing: Not Required		

Pre-Placement Training

Requirement and Content

Training requirements are a minimum of 6 hours of pre-placement training under DCF 56.14 (6) before or after the child is placed in your home. The training must be completed within 6 months of the date your license is issued. A relative or like-kin child may be placed before pre-placement training is completed yet the necessary training is still referred to as pre-placement training.

Pre-placement courses reinforce and clarify any information you learned as a part of the licensing process. The training provides the fundamental information needed to provide a safe and nurturing environment for the child. The topics of the training are listed in the chart above.

Accessing the Training

Foster Parents complete Pre-Placement Training online. The online training can be accessed on the WCWPDS website at: <https://care.wcwpds.wisc.edu/foster-parent-pre-placement/>.

Documenting Completion of Training

At the end of the Foster Parent Pre-Placement Training, print out the Certificate of Completion to document that you have completed the training. You will want to share this with your foster care coordinator / licensor.

In addition, your licensor will complete a Licensor Guide to the Web-Based Foster Parent Pre-Placement Training form to make sure that they have reviewed all of the information in the training with you and you have had an opportunity get your questions answered.

Initial Licensing Training (Foundation)

Level 1 licensed foster parents are not required to complete initial licensing training. However, if you are interested in learning more about Foster Parent Foundation training, please talk to you Foster Care Coordinator / Licensor.

Ongoing Training

Level 1 licensed foster parents are not required to complete ongoing training. However, if you are interested in learning more about ongoing training opportunities for foster parents, please talk to you Foster Care Coordinator / Licensor.