

## Steps to becoming a kinship carer





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Once you have made the decision that you are interested in being a kinship carer, there are a number of steps you go through to become approved as a kinship carer.

The aim of this approval process is to make sure that you:

- are suitable to be an approved kinship carer, and all members of your household are suitable persons to associate with children and young people on a daily basis
- are able to meet the standards of care in the Statement of Standards outlined in the *Child Protection Act 1999*
- are able to help work towards achieving goals for the safety, care and protection of children or young people.

## *To become a kinship carer you need to:*

### **Complete a household safety study**

This will be completed by the person making the assessment. It includes mandatory safety requirements that must be met prior to approval.

### **Complete an Application for Approval form**

This will provide important information to the department to help with personal history checks for you and your adult household members. This includes consideration of criminal and child protection history, and where necessary, domestic violence and traffic history.

### **Complete a blue card application**

This must be completed by applicants and any other adult members of the household. The department can assist with this process. For more information about the blue card, see the fact sheet 'Blue card'.

### **Complete a health and wellbeing questionnaire**

This will be completed with the help of the person making the assessment. Medicals may be required as part of your approval.

### **Complete required interviews**

These will be conducted by the person making the assessment. You, your children (depending on their age), any adult household members and significant others will be included.



Become a foster carer

**1300 550 877**

[www.childsafety.qld.gov.au](http://www.childsafety.qld.gov.au)



### *If your application is approved by the department:*

- You will receive a letter confirming that you have been approved as a kinship carer.
- You will receive a Certificate of Approval as a kinship carer. This is for an initial 12 months and is renewable every two years thereafter, upon application and approval.
- You will develop a Placement Agreement with the department or non-government foster and kinship care service that will detail the goals of the placement and the support and training you may need to meet them.

If your application is refused by the department, you will receive a letter stating the reasons for the decision and your right of review.

For more information contact your local child safety service centre or call the foster carer recruitment line on **1300 550 877** or visit [www.childsafety.qld.gov.au](http://www.childsafety.qld.gov.au) You can also contact Foster Care Queensland on **(07) 3268 5955**.