



Journey Toward Licensure

Becoming a licensed foster parent can feel overwhelming. Just take it one step at a time. Keep this checklist handy to track your progress or reference as you're moving forward! You can check things off in whichever order works for you.

- ❑ Become familiar with the [licensing application process](#).
- ❑ Consider if you would like to license with the State Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) <https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/foster-parenting/become-a-foster-parent>. Please note that from Nov 1, 2022 – Mar 1, 2023, you may go on the DCYF waiting list or contact a CPA for more immediate licensing.
- ❑ Prospective foster parents who want to be notified as soon DCYF begins to process general foster care applications can contact their [regional contact](#).

[Foster Care Licensing Region 1](#)

[Foster Care Licensing Region 2](#)

[Foster Care Licensing Region 3](#)

[Foster Care Licensing Region 4](#)

[Foster Care Licensing Region 5](#)

[Foster Care Licensing Region 6](#)

- ❑ Consider if you would like to license with a Child Placing Agency (CPA). Read about the agencies, call and chat with them to see if they would be a good “fit” for you and your family.

Regional map: [Find your region](#)

[Region 1](#)

[Region 4](#)

[Region 2](#)

[Region 5](#)

[Region 3](#)

[Region 6](#)

- ❑ Get your references ready.
Contact the folks you would like to use as a reference; talk to them about your desire to foster; ask if they are willing to be a reference, including whether or not they have any concerns; share any specific points you'd appreciate your references to mention.

- ❑ Review the Foster Home Licensing Inspection Checklist [10-183 Foster Home Licensing Inspection Checklist](#).
- ❑ Develop an emergency evacuation plan and practice it.
- ❑ Talk with family members about your desire to foster.
- ❑ Check your social media settings for confidentiality purposes while fostering.
- ❑ Create a profile on the Alliance training page to enable you to register for courses <https://cpe.socialwork.uw.edu/alliance-courses>.
- ❑ Complete Caregiver Core Training (CCT) <https://cpe.socialwork.uw.edu/alliance-courses/content/caregiver-core-training-online> the required eight-session course that builds your knowledge and skills. This training is offered as a self-paced eLearning through <https://risewiththealliance.org/>.
- ❑ Complete one or more field experiences from session 1 of CCT.
- ❑ Schedule your individual support session when completing session 8 of CCT.
- ❑ Complete your individual support session with an Alliance trainer and receive your certificate of completion.
- ❑ Complete a certified course for First Aid/CPR/Blood Born Pathogens https://cpe.socialwork.uw.edu/alliance-courses/course-catalog-table?text=first+aid&sort_by=field_course_event_date_value.
- ❑ Take additional trainings from the Alliance Catalog. Check out some suggested courses [Becoming a Caregiver - The Alliance for Professional Development, Training and Caregiver Excellence \(risewiththealliance.org\)](#).
- ❑ Join a book club or support group <https://alliancecares.org/support-groups/>.
- ❑ Check out the supports and resources available through Alliance CaRES <https://alliancecares.org/>.
- ❑ Contact CaRES to get support, guidance, and answers to any questions! Email us at alliancecares@uw.edu.
- ❑ Identify community resources that may be helpful and give them a call to find out more about their services.