

## What are the training requirements?

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- Pre-Placement: Online training that must be completed prior to a child being placed in your home or within six months from date of licensure
- Initial Licensing Training - 30 hours of Nurturing Connections Training; 19.5 hours are on various required topics and the remainder 10.5 hours, foster parents choose from various other topics areas they are interested in. These trainings are live, in-person or via Zoom
- Ongoing Training – each foster parent must complete 10 hours of ongoing training each year after the initial licensing period (after first 2-years)



**ONEIDA COUNTY  
HUMAN SERVICES**

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## Have Questions or want to know how to apply to become a foster parent?

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Reach out to us and request more information or request an application packet!

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**ONEIDA COUNTY  
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**Foster Care  
Program**

## What is Foster Care?

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Foster care is temporary care for children who cannot live with their families because of safety concerns. Children in foster care may live with relatives, like kin, or with unrelated foster parents.

The primary goal of foster care is reunification. When reunification is not possible, alternative permanency goals are considered. Foster parents play a critical role by caring for the children and establishing a working relationship with the families and agencies in the interim. Most children in foster care return home to their families. When children cannot return home, they find permanence primarily through guardianship or adoption by a relative or their identified foster/adoptive family.



## What are the requirements to be a Foster Parent?

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- You must be 18-years of age or older
- You may be single, married, divorced, widowed, or in a significant long-term relationship
- Your physical and mental health conditions do not interfere with your ability to provide care for a child
- You must be financially able to provide for your family
- You and your family must participate in the home study process with the licensing agency
- You must pass a criminal background check
- Your home must comply with standards established by the State of Wisconsin as outlined in Chapter DCF 56
- You must be able to provide proof of homeowners/renters insurance and auto insurance
- You must provide names and contact information of at least three references
- You must complete proper training requirements within the specified timelines (see training section for more information)

## What are primary responsibilities of a foster parent?

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- Provide a safe and nurturing environment.
- Promote normalcy and personal growth and improve well-being by including children in the family's daily activities and allowing them to participate in everyday activities.
- Support contact between children and their birth families/caregivers; establish working relationships with birth families/caregivers to co-parent children; facilitate connection, and provide transportation to and from visits when possible.
- Advocate for the children in all applicable domains (identity formation, maintaining connections, school, medical, developmental, behavioral health, etc.)
- Communicate and work closely with your licensing professional and the family's child welfare professional and team regarding progress and concerns and in achieving the permanence goals for the child.
- Arrange and take the children to medical and dental appointments.