



Adoption Training Curriculum

Adoption education is an important part of the home study process. Adoption is a life-long journey and as such we require adoptive parents to actively and enthusiastically participate in adoption training. There is no such thing as too much adoption education.

We expect both Adoptive Parents to actively take part in the training – you do yourselves and your future adopted child a disservice if you do not both actively partake in this process. Below are required classes, which must be taken by all adoptive families, and optional suggested classes which adoptive parents may find helpful. Families open to adopting a child from a different race from their own are required to complete the “Conspicuous families” class, in addition to the other required classes.

Classes provided by Adoption Learning Partners (ALP) are available to purchase individually, however we have partnered with ALP to provide these classes as a package, saving you money in the process. Fees for all classes offered through the Adoption Learning Center will be paid directly to them. It is noted if a class is available as part of the package. All classes offer certificates of completion, which should be printed off and sent to Florida Adoption Center to be documented in the home study.

To access the Florida Adoption Center’s **Discounted Adoption Package** on Adoption Learning Partner’s website click on the following link: <http://www.adoptionlearningpartners.org/agency/florida-adoption-center/index.cfm>

Class Subject – Required Adoption Classes

Hours

Orientation (775.083 (b) 1).

2.0

Regarding agency purpose, objectives, resources, policies and services. *Conducted by Adoption Competent – Master’s level Agency Staff*

Cost: Free - Part of Home Study Process – Conducted by Florida Adoption Center

Let’s Talk Adoption

2.0

Talking about adoption can be difficult for a variety of reasons, but it should not be a one-time conversation. This course gives you the tools you need to make talking about adoption part of your family’s everyday life.

Online - Adoption Learning Partners (included in package) - \$40

Tough Starts: Treatment Matters (775.083 (b) 2).

1.0

Treatment Matters gives parents strategies for seeking professional help as soon as they recognize significant challenges in their child. Understand the importance of a diagnosis, when to consider medication and how to choose a therapist.

Online - Adoption Learning Partners (included in package) - \$30

Becoming Your Child’s Best Advocate (775.083 (b) 2).

2.0

Advocacy begins even before a child joins her adoptive family and continues throughout her childhood. This course will help you understand why you are the best advocate for your adopted child, determine your need for services, and find resources available to assist your family.

Online - Adoption Learning Partners (included in package) - \$40



The Journey of Attachment (775.083 (b) 3).

2.0

Attachment is an essential component of any healthy, happy family. Adoption, however, may present challenges to the attachment process. Designed for both first time adoptive parents and parents struggling with attachment issues with their adopted child, this course provides practical tips on how to form and sustain this important bond.

Online - Adoption Learning Partners (*included in package*) - \$40

Finding the Missing Pieces (775.083 (b) 3).

2.0

It is natural for adopted children to grieve the life and family they never knew, no matter how old they were when adopted, how open the adoption or how happy their life with the adoptive family. This course will help adoptive parents recognize the signs of grief at different developmental stages, identify situations that may trigger grief and develop strategies to help children grieve.

Online - Adoption Learning Partners (*included in package*) - \$40

Discipline and the Adopted Child: Ain't Misbehavin' (775.083 (b) 4)

2.0

Ain't Misbehavin' helps parents better understand potential causes for challenging behaviors and develop effective adoption friendly discipline plans to address them. By encouraging children to make better behavioral choices, effective discipline results in happier, more connected families.

Online - Adoption Learning Partners (*included in package*) - \$35

Conspicuous Families

1.5

Adopting a child of a different race or ethnicity presents challenges families may not expect. Share in the wisdom and collective experiences of adopted persons and adoptive parents with transracial families and learn new skills for responding to insensitive comments as well as strategies for expanding the diversity in your life.

Online - Adoption Learning Partners (*included in package*) - \$35

How to Care for an Infant – baby care classes

1.0

Local Hospital or online

CPR and First Aid

4.0

Community Provider or Red Cross online

Water Safety

1.0

Online via Red Cross - <https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/classes/water-safety-for-parents-and-caregivers/a6R3o0000012oT8.html> - Free

Total Hours

20.5



Other classes/Voluntary/Optional Classes

Adoption Learning Partners has a host of wonderful classes available on their website. Consider your situation and decide whether any of these classes, or others offered on their site, would be useful to you. These classes can be accessed using the following link: <http://www.adoptionlearningpartners.org/catalog/courses/index.cfm>

Management of Difficult Child Behaviors: The Connected Child (775.083 (b) 4)

3.0

The Connected Child – Karyn B. Purvis. Ph.D., David R. Cross. Ph.D., and Wendy Lyons Sunshine. *Read the book and process/discuss and process with Adoption Competent Master’s level Agency Staff*

Cost: Varies – Can be purchased from any bookstore in person or online – The Connected Child

Open Adoption 101: What to Consider, How to Establish, And Ways to Stay Connected

2.0

Open adoption can be a scary and difficult relationship to understand. This course will explain open adoption, will help you to understand the expectant parent and birth parent perspectives and will offer some strategies for making openness part of your everyday life.

Online - Adoption Learning Partners - \$40

Adoption Tax Credit

1.0

The adoption tax credit provides a valuable benefit to adoptive families; it is also among one of the most complicated tax law provisions. This course will help you determine eligibility, create record keeping systems and prepare for year-end tax planning.

Online - Adoption Learning Partners – Free - This class is not a required class and as such we do not require a certificate of completion.

Creating an Adoption Profile that works

2.0

Make the first step in connecting with expectant parents considering adoption a good one by creating a compelling profile that truly highlights who you are. If your adoption profile creatively expresses who you really are, expectant parents get a window into your life and therefore a reason to connect with you specifically.

Online - Adoption Learning Partners - \$48

Lifebooks

1.5

A Lifebook is a book created for an adopted child that tells his story, before and after adoption. It helps children place foster care or adoption in the context of their life experiences. This course will help you understand the purpose and importance of a Lifebook, identify situations in which it is beneficial and develop some pages of your child’s Lifebook.

Online - Adoption Learning Partners - \$35

Various Other Training Sites

<https://www.newparentsacademy.com/adoption>

<https://www.adopted.org/pages/adoption-courses>

<https://www.pactadopt.org/resources/resource-library.html>

<https://myadoptionadvisor.com/adoption-training/#understand-EPs>