



REFERENCE LETTER GUIDELINES

Adoption is a profoundly serious matter. All who participate in adoption share responsibility for a child's future.

References should be requested from someone who has known the family for a long time. Their insight and opinion are important to us. Five (5) references per applicant are required. Reference requests made to persons who know both applicants count as one reference for each. If a reference request is made of a person who only knows one applicant, then we will need an additional reference request from someone who knows the other applicant.

Reference requests should answer the following questions as honestly and thoroughly as possible. Please know that we do not expect adoptive parents to be more "perfect" than biological families, so feel free to describe their weaknesses and strengths.

All letters must include reference full name, address, phone number, e-mail, and signature. We would like the letter to be typed and a copy e-mailed to us at HomeStudy@FloridaAdoptionCenter.com. The e-mailed copy does not need to be signed. In addition, we require that you print off a hard copy, **sign it** and **mail the original** to us to:

**Attn: Home Study
Florida Adoption Center, LLC
1840 Sarno Road
Melbourne FL, 32935**

If you have any questions, please reach out.

1. How long have you known this family, and what is your association with them (professional, social, neighbors, etc.)?
2. Describe their individual personalities, character, interests, and health.
3. How do you see their marriage/relationship? What are their strengths and weaknesses, individually and as a couple?
4. Please describe their lifestyle, activities, and interests.
5. Have you ever seen evidence of instability, drug or alcohol use, or felt counseling was needed?
Please explain.
6. Why do you think they wish to adopt a child?
7. Please describe the type of parents you feel they will be.
8. If you were responsible for a child's future, would you want this family to adopt the child?
Please explain.

Thank you for your assistance to this family.