



Adoption Family Interview Questions

Date:

Interviewed Family Name(s):

Child(ren)'s names/ages

- **Introduction of Adoption Workers**
- **Confidentiality sheet signed by all participants**
- **A Brief overview of the child provided. The presentation may include the child's legal status and a clear, but concise description of the child's condition, including any changes or updates since the child's Social History was completed. The child's desires in an adoptive family should be noted if applicable. Any special requirements established for the child by the child's court status should be discussed.**

Can you tell us about your family? What are your strengths? What are your needs/areas that improvements that could be made as a family? How do your own child(ren) feel about adoption?

What is your motivation to adopt?

What is your understanding of the child(ren)'s current special needs or behaviors? Are there any behaviors that you have or may have a more difficult time handling?

Currently, what is your frequency and duration of visits with the child(ren)?

Do you have any immediate concerns about your financial, physical, or emotional ability to provide for the child(ren)?

Have you been provided information regarding an adoption subsidy and if the child(ren) qualify? If child is not eligible for monetary subsidy, do you understand the qualification for future needs and what that means?

How will adding the child(ren) to your home affect your family? Tell us about the hobbies and activities your family is involved in and how adding the child(ren) to your family will affect those. What hobbies and activities do you see the child(ren) involved in if they are in your home permanently?

**What services are available in your community that would benefit the child(ren)?
What School would the child(ren) attend?
What are your plans for childcare (if applicable)?**

Who/What are your support systems? How have you used them in the past? How are they available to you?

Do you currently know anyone who has adopted and have you discussed the successes and challenges of adopting?

Are you familiar with Post Adoption Services and/or Adoption Support Groups?

If you are adopting a child age 16 or older, are you aware of services to help them transition to adulthood, including Iowa Aftercare Services Program and the Education and Training Voucher (ETV).

As children get older, many times, they have questions about their birth families and the adoption of themselves. How would you handle this?

Are you willing to maintain contact with the birth family, if appropriate? What will that look like and how will you assess if contact is in the child(ren)'s best interest ongoing?

Describe your intent to support sibling interactions and how do you see that contact occurring over the children's life? (if applicable)

Can you talk about the structure and routine in your home and how having other children in your home may affect this? Tell us about your parenting styles and discipline techniques. If the child(ren) aren't responsive to your parenting style or discipline, how do you see yourself adjusting to this?

Can you give an example of how you have had to make changes or seek out resources to meet the needs of the child(ren) or any child? What are your expectations and are they different for each child?

What's the behavior(s) that would cause you to request the child(ren)'s removal from your home?

What is your Guardianship plan for the child(ren) in case of your death or inability to parent?

Who would that be?

Have you spoken to that person and are they in agreement?

Clarification questions by the adoption team.

Is there anything else you would like to share, that you feel is important for us to know, or that we haven't covered? Any further questions for the adoption team?

We would like to thank you for your participation.

You will be notified of the selection, after the last selection staffing interview, within 2 business days.

Adoption team selection participants:

Other providers consulted:

Post Interview Discussion Points:

Note: MEPA consideration: A State, or any other entity may not: Deny an individual the opportunity to adopt on the basis of the child's or the prospective parent's race, color, or national origin.

- **General strengths and concerns for each prospective family.**
- **Discuss the child(ren)'s individual needs and each prospective family's ability to meet those needs.**
- **Sibling contact**
- **Discuss the child(ren)'s bond with each prospective family and any attachment issues.**
- **Will selection of this family delay permanency? Is there good cause to delay?**
- **ICWA determination and status of intervention**