

- 1 1. Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age; provided, however,
2 that persons who are potential kinship foster parents shall be at
3 least eighteen (18) years of age;
- 4 2. Reside lawfully in the United States;
- 5 3. Have healthy relationships, whether married, single,
6 separated, or divorced. Unhealthy relationships include, but shall
7 not be limited to, a relationship with an abusive partner or a
8 person with a history of violence;
- 9 4. Have the ability to manage personal and household financial
10 needs without relying on the foster care maintenance payment;
- 11 5. Earn at least one hundred one percent (101%) of the Federal
12 Poverty Level for the calendar year for the prospective household
13 size if a child or children were placed in the household;
- 14 6. Provide verification that the primary caregiver of the
15 prospective child or children to be placed is in sufficiently good
16 physical and mental health to provide for the individual needs of
17 each child;
- 18 7. Provide a minimum of two (2) letters of recommendation from
19 respected and prominent individuals within the prospective foster
20 parent's or parents' community. Such persons may include, but shall
21 not be limited to, ministers, priests, and teachers as defined in
22 Section 1-116 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

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1 8. Maintain a home that is adequately furnished and decorated,
2 maintained to a good standard of cleanliness and hygiene, free from
3 any foul or offensive odor, and in good order throughout;

4 9. Fulfill the Department of Human Services policy on
5 background investigations for all household members who are thirteen
6 (13) years of age and older;

7 10. Have no history of confirmed child abuse, neglect or sexual
8 abuse;

9 11. Have a working vehicle;

10 12. Be able to provide appropriate sleeping arrangements for
11 each child placed;

12 13. Complete all required training in a timely manner;

13 14. Comply with the Department's rules on discipline;

14 15. Ensure that outdoor spaces which are part of the premises
15 are safe, secure, and well-maintained; and

16 16. Demonstrate the basic competencies to:

17 a. protect and nurture children who have been abused,
18 emotionally maltreated, or neglected,

19 b. meet the medical and developmental needs of the
20 children,

21 c. support relationships between children and their
22 parents, siblings, and kin, as specified by the
23 Department of Human Services,

24 d. connect children to safe, nurturing relationships,

- 1 e. collaborate with the Department as a team member,
- 2 f. not smoke in the home when a child is placed in the
- 3 home,
- 4 g. not smoke in the automobile when transporting a child
- 5 placed in the home,
- 6 h. have extended family or friends to provide support and
- 7 child care other than, or in addition to, licensed
- 8 child care paid by the Department,
- 9 i. share parenting of the child with the parents, who may
- 10 have different values and lifestyles,
- 11 j. be willing to actively mentor the parent to help
- 12 improve the parent's ability to safely care for the
- 13 child, and
- 14 k. be willing to accept placement of siblings, if it is
- 15 appropriate for siblings to be placed together.

16 B. Any person who willfully makes a false or fraudulent
17 application or who willfully provides any false or fraudulent
18 information in order to meet the requirements of subsection A of
19 this section, or any person who willfully aids or abets another in
20 making such false or fraudulent application or who willfully aids or
21 abets another in providing any false or fraudulent information in
22 order to assist such person in meeting the requirements of
23 subsection A of this section, upon conviction, shall be guilty of a
24 misdemeanor punishable by a fine not less than Five Hundred Dollars

1 (\$500.00) nor more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) and shall
2 be disqualified from becoming a foster parent.

3 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.
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5 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
6 OVERSIGHT, dated 02/26/2026 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.
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