

# your roadmap to Adopt BC Kids

adopt

Adoptive Families  
Association of BC

A step-by-step guide to adopting  
from foster care in British Columbia



## 1 Watch Adoption Basics

Learn the basics about adopting in BC through this online, interactive info session: [bcadoption.com/abasics](http://bcadoption.com/abasics).



## 2 Get a BCeID

General applicants\* must have an active BCeID before they can apply through the Adopt BC Kids program. Apply for your BCeID at [bceid.ca/register/personal](http://bceid.ca/register/personal) and then have your BCeID verified at a BC Service Centre in your area.



## 4 Take the online Adoption Education Program (AEP)

This intensive online course prepares you to care for adopted children and explains the social, emotional, legal, and financial aspects of adoption. Register at [bcadoption.com/aep-online](http://bcadoption.com/aep-online).



## 3 Submit your Adopt BC Kids application

Complete your adoption application, track your application progress, and access profiles of waiting kids on the easy-to-use Adopt BC Kids online portal at [adopt.gov.bc.ca](http://adopt.gov.bc.ca).



## 5 Complete a home study

You'll be referred for a home study after you complete the AEP. You'll have several meetings with a social worker to help evaluate if adoption is right for you. You'll also explore things like the age, risk factors, special needs, and number of children you're prepared to parent. Once completed, you will be an approved waiting parent and can move on to the matching stage!



\*Child-specific applicants (who are applying to adopt a child they already know) will submit an application to their local MCFD office.



## 6 Find a match

Being “matched” means you’ve been officially identified as a potential adoptive family for a child or sibling group. Matching is a child-centred process. This means social workers search for the best family for a child, not the best child for a family. You can find potential matches by searching the profiles on the Adopt BC Kids portal, attending matching events (ask your social worker about these), and talking to your social worker about matches they’ve identified for you.



## 7 Make a decision

If you decide you want to say “yes” to a match, the guardianship worker will prepare a document called a proposal package with detailed information about the child’s health, history, and development. Take your time reading this and consult with professionals such as your doctor, and your AFABC family support worker before making your decision.



## 8 Welcome a child

Once you’ve accepted the proposal, the child’s guardianship worker will arrange a schedule of pre-placement visits so you can get to know the child and their routines. Once the child moves into your home, your social worker will continue to visit and offer support to help you and your child adjust to being a family.



## 9 Finalize your adoption

After a minimum six-month residency period, your social worker will mail the final adoption paperwork to the courts. It may take a few more months for the judge to sign off on the adoption order. You’ll be notified and will receive the final adoption papers by mail.



## 10 Start your new journey

Congratulations! Your adoption is complete, and your journey as a family is just beginning. AFABC is here for you every step of the way. Flip this roadmap over to discover all the ways we can continue to support you.

# support for your adoption journey

adopt

Adoptive Families Association of BC

Wherever you are in adoption, we've been there too



## 1 Contact us

Call us at **1-877-ADOPT-07** for information on adoption or email [adoptbckids@bcadoption.com](mailto:adoptbckids@bcadoption.com).



## 2 Educate yourself

Start with the Adoption Basics online workshop at [bcadoption.com/abasics](http://bcadoption.com/abasics), and then deepen your learning with our on-demand webinars, workshops, Facebook "ask the expert" series, and online courses. Get started at [bcadoption.com/education](http://bcadoption.com/education).



## 4 Connect with your family support worker

Family support workers offer support, organize events in your area, and connect you with other waiting and adoptive families. We have family support workers in every region of BC. Find yours at [bcadoption.com/familysupport](http://bcadoption.com/familysupport) or call us at 1-877-ADOPT-07.



## 3 Sign up for updates

Receive regular updates through *Adoption Monthly*, AFABC's community newsletter. Sign up at [bcadoption.com/enews](http://bcadoption.com/enews).



## 5 Join a support group

We offer more than 30 online and virtual support groups for waiting and adoptive parents—check them all out and join one (or more!) at [bcadoption.com/support-groups](http://bcadoption.com/support-groups).





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## 6 Come to an event

We offer virtual and select in-person family events across BC. Waiting parents are welcome! Find an event in your community at [bcadoption.com/events](https://bcadoption.com/events).



## 7 Get involved

Want to lead a support group, apply to provide respite care, or have a skill to share? Email [ehsu@bcadoption.com](mailto:ehsu@bcadoption.com) to ask about opportunities and learn more at [bcadoption.com/volunteer](https://bcadoption.com/volunteer).



## 8 Find us on social media

Follow AFABC on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram [@bcadopt](https://www.instagram.com/bcadopt) for news, current events, articles, and more. Don't miss our Facebook support groups: [facebook.com/bcadopt/groups](https://www.facebook.com/bcadopt/groups).



## 9 Read up

Check out our resource guides and explore hundreds of articles and other resources on our website at [bcadoption.com/resources](https://bcadoption.com/resources).



## 10 Find help for your family's big transition

Watch a webinar, take a transition workshop, and connect with your Family Support Worker ahead of your transition. Get the lowdown on all the resources and financial supports available to you at [bcadoption.com/finances](https://bcadoption.com/finances).