

Arkansas

Road to Adoption

For more information, visit everychildarkansas.org or call 501-214-9179.

Let's Get Started!

Inquiry and Information

Connect with Every Child Arkansas to express interest in adoption. Attend an informational session to learn about the adoption process, requirements, and expectations.

1

Training

Complete required pre-service training which helps prepare you for adoption.

3

Approval/Matching

Once your home is open and approved, attend connection events and inquire through the Project Zero Heart Gallery. An adoption specialist should respond within 3 days. If selected, adoption disclosure staffing will be scheduled.

5

Settling In

Have regular visits with the child's adoption specialist to help your family adjust. Spend a minimum of 6 months connecting with your child. Time frame is dependent on the child and family's circumstances.

7

On Going Support

Connect with your local adoption team for referrals for additional services and support.

9

How long does the adoption process take?

The process can take 6 months or more due to the required paperwork, training and other steps detailed below. The Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) hopes to have informed resource parents who feel like part of a team. We appreciate your patience.

Initial Application

Submit initial application to get started. Undergo preliminary screening, including background checks and initial assessment to ensure eligibility.

2

Home Study

Complete a detailed home study which includes a series of home visits and interviews to assess your family's readiness to adopt.

4

Getting to Know Each Other

A series of pre-placement visits will take place, then the child will be placed into your home with ongoing monitoring and support from DCFS.

6

Finalizing the Adoption

Review adoption subsidy paperwork with the Adoption Specialist and sign necessary paperwork, including the Petition to Adopt. An adoption hearing will be held where a judge will approve the adoption and sign the Certified Adoption Decree. That paperwork will be used to obtain a new birth certificate and social security card. Congratulations!

8

