

HOME STUDY UPDATE CHECKLIST

Adoptive Applicants: _____

Social Worker Completing Update: _____

PLEASE GIVE THIS CHECKLIST TO YOUR SOCIAL WORKER.

A Home Study or Home Study Update *may not* be more than six (6) months old at the time of placement of a child.

The items listed below must be specifically documented in adoptive parents' Home Study. Without this specific documentation the Home Study will not meet Texas Minimum Standards for Child Placement. In the event the adoptive parents' Home Study does not include the following items, an "Addendum" will be required.

The Home Study Update must be completed by:

- a. A Social Worker with an M.S.W (Master of Social Work) degree or
- b. A Social Worker with a B.S.W. (Bachelor of Social Work) degree and who is supervised closely by a person with an M.S.W.
- c. A person with a Bachelor's Degree in a Human Services field and reviewed and approved by the Agency's Level I Staff.

Date Home Study Update completed: _____

Date of last Home Visit: _____

1. The Home Study Update must document the following:

- _____ a. Date of at least one (1) home visit conducted as a part of the update process. All members of the household must be present, including any live-in domestic staff.
- _____ b. Names of all those household members present at the home visit.
- _____ c. If the update is being conducted for a subsequent adoptive placement, the dates of at least one individual interview with each applicant must be documented.

2. Review of all Original Home Study items (listed on *Home Study Checklist*) with the following documented:

_____ a. Descriptive narrative of changes in any area.

_____ b. Statement that all other areas of Original Home Study remain the same.

3. If the update is being conducted for a subsequent adoptive placement the following must be documented:

_____ a. Adjustment of the children in the family.

_____ b. How each child feels about the addition of another child.

4. Will the worker preparing the Home Study be willing to do the post placement supervision? Texas requires two face to face visits with the adoptive parents, at least one of those visits must be in the family home. The second (or last) visit must take place after child has resided in home for 5 months.

Yes _____ No _____

5. FBI Clearances and Child Abuse Clearances up to date:

Clearance Dates:

_____ a. FBI

_____ b. Criminal

_____ c. Child Abuse

Although adoptive parents may reside in a state other than the State of Placement, the Home Study and all updates must be in compliance with Minimum Child Placements Standards of their home State, State of child's birth, and State in which placement occurs.