



Merakey Foster Care Step by Step Guide

Initial Contact Q&A

- As a potential Merakey foster care parent, you are encouraged to ask any questions you may have.
- Merakey will inquire about your living situation, your time involvement as it relates to this commitment, and expectations of the pre-service process.

Application Packet

- Please complete the MERAKEY Resource Parent Application and return as soon as possible.
- This will be sent via email, distributed at the Initial Contact Q&A, or it can be found at merakey.org.

Orientation to Program

- Once the application is submitted, you are given your first formal training to be an Merakey foster care parent.
- You will receive further information on what will happen during the pre-approval process on your way to becoming an Merakey foster care parent.

Training

- Merakey will provide foster parents with the necessary tools to effectively prepare them for the children/families and any issues that may arise.

Home Study

- The home study is a written document that explores family dynamics, family history, and how our children might fit in to their lives, which is constructed throughout the pre-service process.

Final Home Inspection

- Merakey requires a final policy review, parent signatures, a final in-program safety inspection, and a safety inspection completed by Philadelphia Insurance Companies.

Certification as a Fully Approved Foster Parent

- As part of final approval for foster care parents, the Merakey Foster Care administrative sites inform parents of site specific protocols for payroll, expenses, and other necessary administrative aspects of program functioning.

Finding a Match

- Merakey will begin the process of pairing you with a youth in need of a supportive home.

Thank you for your interest in becoming an Merakey Foster Care Parent!