

NEW YORK STATE  
OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

**APPLICATION TO ADOPT**  
**Family Adoption Registry Information**

**NOTE:** Select **ALL** acceptable characteristics. You may choose more than one entry in each area.

**Sex**  Male  Female  Other | **Age:** \_\_\_\_\_ *Under 2* \_\_\_\_\_ *2-5* \_\_\_\_\_ *6-7* \_\_\_\_\_ *8-9* \_\_\_\_\_ *10-13* \_\_\_\_\_ *Over 13*

**Ethnicity Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Language Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Secondary Language Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Religion Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

ETHNICITY CODE (FOR CHILD AND PARENTS)				LANGUAGE CODE (FOR CHILD AND PARENTS)			
<b>AA</b> Black or African American	<b>ASI</b> Indian	<b>AI</b> Nat Am Lan	<b>KM</b> Cambodian				
<b>AAC</b> Caribbean	<b>ASJ</b> Japanese	<b>AL</b> Albanian	<b>KR</b> Korean				
<b>AAH</b> Haitian	<b>ASK</b> Korean	<b>AR</b> Arabic	<b>LA</b> Laotian				
<b>AAN</b> Native African	<b>ASX</b> Other - Asian	<b>BN</b> Bengali	<b>MU</b> Multiple				
<b>AAX</b> Other - Black or African American	<b>HP</b> Hispanic	<b>BS</b> Bosnian	<b>NI</b> Nigerian/bo				
<b>AL</b> Alaskan Native	<b>ML</b> Multiple	<b>CC</b> Cantonese	<b>PJ</b> Punjabi				
<b>AM</b> Native American	<b>PI</b> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	<b>CF</b> Fujianese	<b>PL</b> Polish				
<b>AS</b> Asian	<b>WH</b> White	<b>CH</b> ChnseOther	<b>PR</b> Portuguese				
<b>ASC</b> Chinese	<b>XNR</b> Not Reported	<b>CM</b> Mandarin	<b>PT</b> Patois				
RELIGION CODE (FOR CHILD AND PARENTS)				<b>CR</b> HaitnCreol	<b>RO</b> Romanian		
<b>AT</b> African Religion	<b>IS</b> Muslim/Islamic	<b>CZ</b> Czech	<b>RS</b> Russian				
<b>BA</b> Baptist	<b>JW</b> Jehovah's Witness	<b>EN</b> English	<b>SC</b> SerboCroat				
<b>BP</b> Other Protestant	<b>LU</b> Lutheran	<b>ET</b> Ethiopian	<b>SI</b> Amer Sign				
<b>BU</b> Buddhist	<b>ME</b> Methodist/Wesleyan	<b>FA</b> Farsi	<b>SL</b> Braille				
<b>CJ</b> Jewish	<b>MO</b> Mormon	<b>FL</b> Fulani	<b>SP</b> Spanish				
<b>CS</b> Christian Science	<b>NA</b> Native American	<b>FO</b> Filipino	<b>TL</b> Tagalog				
<b>CT</b> Chinese Traditional	<b>OC</b> Other Christian	<b>FR</b> French	<b>UK</b> Unknown				
<b>DE</b> Other Eastern	<b>PE</b> Pentecostal	<b>GK</b> Greek	<b>UR</b> Urdu				
<b>EN</b> None/Secular	<b>PR</b> Presbyterian	<b>GR</b> German	<b>VT</b> Vietnamese				
<b>EP</b> Episcopal/Anglican	<b>RC</b> Catholic	<b>GU</b> Gujarati	<b>YI</b> Yiddish				
<b>FP</b> No Preference	<b>RO</b> Russian Orthodox	<b>HI</b> Hindi	<b>XX</b> Other				
<b>GO</b> Greek Orthodox	<b>UN</b> Unknown	<b>HW</b> Hebrew					
<b>HI</b> Hindu	<b>UU</b> Unitarian/Universal	<b>IT</b> Italian					
	<b>XX</b> Other	<b>JP</b> Japanese					
		<b>KH</b> Khmer					

**If you will consider a child with special needs and individual needs check ALL appropriate choices in the boxes below:**

CATEGORIES OF CHILD NEEDS	MILD	MODERATE	SEVERE
Medical/Physical Needs			
Educational/Learning Needs			
Mental Health Needs			
Developmental Delay Needs			
Would you be willing to accept a legally "At Risk" child? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		Would you be interested in adopting a sibling group? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	

## CATEGORIES OF CHILD NEEDS

**Medical/Physical Needs** - This category includes children with specific medical/physical needs that may require an additional level of care beyond that normally given at the child's age level. This category includes children that may display some of the following medical problems that range from acute to chronic and/or terminal illness: a child who experiences respiratory problems ranging from asthma to reactive airway disease or skin conditions that range from eczema to those that require surgical/medical intervention; children with physical disabilities that impair the use of vision, hearing and mobility; and children with neurological problems that range from seizure disorders to different levels of cerebral palsy. This section will include infants that require additional medical intervention as well as some children who have gastrointestinal medical needs, and children who experience a wide range of allergy conditions. Additionally, children with conditions such as Down syndrome, fetal alcohol syndrome, Tourette and sickle cell disease will be included in this section.

**Educational/Learning Needs** - This category includes children with educational/learning needs ranging from educational support to diagnosed learning disabilities. Examples will include visual/receptive/auditory processing difficulties, dyslexia and educational delays. In addition, children may require special educational intervention.

**Mental Health Needs** - This category includes children with mental/emotional disorders ranging from experiencing acting-out behavioral and emotional problems to having been adjudicated Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS), and Juvenile Delinquents. Further examples of mental health needs include those children exhibiting some of the following behaviors low-frustration tolerance, early sexual activity, sexually acting-out behavior, enuresis, encopresis, and cruelty to animals. Also included are children who exhibit these additional issues: resistance to adult authority, have difficulty with their peers, runaway behavior, school absence and or discipline issues, diagnosed attention problems including Attention Deficit Disorder and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, substance abuse sleep disorders, and theft and gang activity. Children who are physically aggressive, violent and destructive will be noted here.

**Developmental Delay Needs** - This category includes children whose developmental needs range from receptive/ expressive language, fine/gross motor skills, social adaptations, and self-help skills to those needing intensive assistance in self-help skills and assistance towards achieving independent living. Also included in this section are children who have temporary developmental delays or more permanent deficits.

### EXPLANATION OF MILD, MODERATE AND SEVERE LEVELS

#### **MILD**

**Medical/Physical Needs** – Child has a condition(s) which require non-acute medical attention such as: visual or hearing impairments, allergies, asthma, controllable epilepsy or follow-up conditions which have been surgically corrected such as open-heart surgery.

**Educational/Learning Needs** – Child is slightly behind in one or more subjects but attends regular school classes. Child may have some minor learning disabilities.

**Mental Health Needs** – Child has a diagnosed condition that may mildly impair their ability to function such as an adjustment or attachments disorder. Child is generally emotionally stable but may be facing a situation (disruption, new foster home) that has created a temporary emotional stress and may be addressed. Child has or has had a problem controlling their behavior, usually associated with a specific incident such as a disruption.

**Developmental Needs** – Child has a mild delay in development and may be receiving speech, occupational or physical therapy.

#### **MODERATE**

**Medical/Physical Needs** – Child that has a moderate level of cerebral palsy, cleft defects which have not yet been surgically treated, sickle cell disease if severe complications are not present, partial impairment of normal movement, diabetes, heart defects which can be repaired, spina bifida without the most severe complications.

**Educational/Learning Needs** – Child is 2 to 3 years behind in subjects and receiving resource room help or other special tutoring aside from being in the regular classroom.

**Mental Health Needs** - Children with one of the described conditions requiring on going intervention services and a higher level of supervision and or treatment. Child is experiencing emotionally related problems that may interfere with child's school performance or interaction with others. Child has a history of acting out causing problems at school and in interpersonal relationships.

**Developmental Needs** – Child needs assistance with skills of daily living. Child is receiving early intervention services for significant lags in speech, fine/gross motor skills.

#### **SEVERE:**

**Medical/Physical Needs** - Children with spina bifida with severe complications, muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy with severe retardation and or paralysis, total paralysis, cystic fibrosis, blindness, total deafness, and terminal illnesses.

**Educational/Learning Needs** - Children diagnosed as learning disabled or mentally disabled that are in special classroom settings.

**Mental Health Needs** - Children who are schizophrenic, autistic and /or who act out destructively such as a fire-setter or a serious suicide risk. Children that are seriously emotionally disturbed, are in residential treatment, are receiving intensive therapy, or are in emotionally handicapped classroom settings. Children who exhibit severe acting-out and/or violent behavior. Children on medication to control their behavior.

**Developmental Needs** - Children with severe mental disability. Children receiving intensive therapy to obtain skills of daily living, children needing extensive supervision for daily functioning.

**Accept Child who is "Legally at Risk"** - Indicate with an "X" if applicant is willing to accept a child who is legally at risk. Detailed below, are two definitions associated with "Legally at Risk".

- The child's birth parents have not terminated their parental rights and/or surrendered the child. Therefore, the child may not become available for adoption.

**Note:** This definition is appropriate for the recruitment and placement of children.

- A child is freed for adoption and there are potential legal impediments to the completion of the adoption including, but not limited to:

- a) there is a pending appeal of the termination of parental rights;
- b) there is a putative father who is claiming to be a person whose consent to the adoption is required;
- c) there is a conditional surrender where the surrender limits or restricts who the adoptive parent can be; and d) the child's immigration status.

**Note:** This definition is appropriate for matching and searching photo-listed children with families registered in the Family Adoption Registry.