

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY	
	Chapter 12: Foster Family Home Licensing Section 05: Pre-Service Training Requirements	
	Effective Date: January 1, 2026	Version: 7

POLICY OVERVIEW

Pre-Service Training helps foster family home (FFH) applicants learn how to care for children safely and meet their needs. This training gives important tools to help families get ready to foster children placed in their care.

POLICY STATEMENT

Per statute or regulations all FFH applicants must:

- Successfully complete 10 hours of Pre-Service Training before getting their initial licensure
- Remain in applied status until the effective date of their license
- Meet all licensing rules before the license is granted

FFH applicants seeking a therapeutic certificate through a Licensed Child Placing Agency (LCPA) should complete 20 hours of Pre-Service Training including:

1. Ten (10) hours of Pre-Service Training to be licensed as a foster parent; and
2. Ten (10) hours of additional preselected training in therapeutic foster care.

If an applicant voluntarily withdraws their application for licensure, and more than four (4) years have passed since they finished training, they must take the training again.

If it has been less than four (4) years, they can use their prior training hours may be used to obtain their license.

Note: A waiver may be requested to carry forward previously completed Pre-Service Training if more than four (4) years have passed (see policy [12.19](#)).

LEGAL REFERENCES

- [IC 31-27-2-9: Expiration of variances and waivers](#)
- [IC 31-27-4-2 Therapeutic foster home: certificate requirements and care limits](#)
- [465 IAC 2-1.5-22: Foster parent training](#)