

Questions to Ask

Once you have selected prospective families, you may find it helpful to have a list of questions with you in case you get nervous during your first conversation.

Below are some suggested questions.

About Adoption

- Why do the prospective adoptive parents wish to adopt?
- Do the adoptive parents desire an open adoption, do they want a closed adoption, or do they want something in between?
- What compromises are the prospective adoptive parents willing to make?
- Do the prospective adoptive parents have familial and community support for their adoption decision?
- Do they belong to or will they join any adoption support or play groups in their area?
- Have they had any education about issues some adoptees may face growing up?
- Are they willing to give you the type of contact you want after the birth and relinquishment of the baby? This may include visits, pictures, videos, letters, a combination of those, or other things not on this list.
- What are their thoughts on adoption?
- When and how do they intend to explain adoption to a child?
- How will you be referred to when addressing the child?

About Their Relationship

- How did the prospective adoptive parents meet?
 - How long did the prospective adoptive parents date before they were married?
 - How long have the prospective adoptive parents been married?
 - Is this a first marriage for each parent? If not, how many times have each been married previously?
 - What are their thoughts and feelings on what makes a strong marriage?
 - What religion or faith do the prospective adoptive parents practice?
 - How big of a role does faith play in their lives?
- Do the prospective adoptive parents regularly attend a church? If so, what is their involvement in church?

About Their Education and Careers

- Did the prospective parents receive any education after high school?
- What profession is each of the prospective adoptive parents?
- What are future career goals for each of the prospective adoptive parents?

About Their Family Life and Home

- Do the prospective adoptive parents have any children? If they do have children, are they biological, adopted, or a combination of the two?
- If adopted, what type of relationship do they have with their child's birthmom or birthmoms?
- Is one of the prospective adoptive parents a stay at home parent? If not, where will the child be while they are working?
- Do they own their own home? If so, what type of neighborhood is it in? Are there good schools nearby?
- What is their philosophy on education?
- What is their parenting style? How do they discipline?
- Are they involved in their community? If so, what type of involvement do they have?
- Do they have extended family nearby?
- What is their relationship like with each of their families?
- What do the prospective adoptive parents do for holidays? What traditions are important to them?

About Their Religion

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 - How big of a role does faith play in their lives?
- Do the prospective adoptive parents regularly attend a church? If so, what is their involvement in church?