

Petitioners _____ Adoptee _____
Attorney _____ Case Number _____

**PRELIMINARY PLACEMENT APPROVAL FOR ADOPTION
(Effective February 13, 2015)**

1. Placement

a. If out-of-state placement:

i. _____ Affidavit of compliance with the Interstate Compact on Placement, Fl. Admin. Code 65C-15.037, OR

_____ The order approving states that placement will be upon approval by the ICPC of Florida and the receiving state.

ii. _____ Out-of-state placement can only be made by an adoption entity if:
§ 63.207(1).

1. _____ Parent placing minor for adoption filed affidavit giving reason for choosing to place minor out-of-state

2. _____ Minor is placed with relative or stepparent

3. _____ Minor is special needs child as defined in **§ 409.166(2):**

a. _____ Permanent custody has been awarded to the department or to a licensed child-placing agency AND

b. _____ Child has established significant emotional ties with his or her foster parents; or is not likely to be adopted because he or she is 8 years of age or older, mentally retarded, physically or emotionally handicapped, of black or racially mixed parentage, or a member of a sibling group of any age, provided two or more members of a sibling group remain together for purposes of adoption.

4. _____ Other good cause is shown why placement should be made.

2. Declaratory Statement

_____ A petition for declaratory statement must be filed and converted to a petition for adoption upon placement of the child in the home. **§ 63.207(1)(b).**

3. At Risk Placement

_____ Must have signature of adoptive parents they acknowledge that this is an AT-RISK placement if parental rights have not yet been terminated. **§ 63.092(2).**

4. Report of Intended Placement

_____ If not placement in: foster home, adult, stepparent, relative, or parent of child; adoption entity must report intended placement of child to court within 48 hours after placement. **§ 63.092(1).** Case Number _____

5. Preliminary Home Study

- a. ____ A preliminary home study must be completed prior to placement of the minor in the home. **§ 63.092(3).**
- b. ____ Preliminary Home Study Requirements **§ 63.092(3)**:
 - 1. ____ 1 year - still valid
 - 2. ____ licensed child-placing agency, child-caring agency under § 409.176, a licensed professional, or an agency described in § 61.20(2)
 - 3. ____ interview with adoptive parents
 - 4. ____ records check:
 - i. ____ central abuse registry – department
 - ii. ____ criminal records correspondence checks - FDLE
 - 5. ____ home environment
 - 6. ____ adoptive parents financial security
 - 7. ____ counseling/education on adoptive parenting
 - 8. ____ information provided on adoption
 - 9. ____ information provided on support services

6. Adoption Disclosures. § 63.085(1)

- Acknowledgment of receipt of the adoption disclosures (§ 63.085(1)) by
- 1. ____ person(s) seeking to place child for adoption with adoption entity
 - 2. ____ person(s) seeking to adopt child with adoption entity, OR
 - A. ____ adoptive mother
 - B. ____ adoptive father
 - 3. ____ not required since Ch. 39 TPR was entered.

7. Disclosures regarding background information of child. § 63.085(2)

- a. The adoption entity must provide Disclosures regarding the child’s background information to the adoptive parents to the extent such information is disclosed to adoption entity by the parents, legal custodian, or the Department. (confidential identifying info must be redacted). **§ 63.085(2)**
 - ____ Acknowledgment of receipt by adoptive mother
 - ____ Acknowledgment of receipt by adoptive father
- b. Signed Statements must include acknowledgment of receipt of:
 - 1. ____ Family social and medical history of birth parents
 - 2. ____ Biological mother’s medical records documenting her prenatal care & birth & delivery of child.
 - 3. ____ Complete set of child’s medical records documenting all medical treatment & care since the child’s birth 7 before placement.
 - 4. ____ All mental health, psychological, & psychiatric records, reports, & evaluations concerning the child before placement.
 - 5. ____ The child’s educational records, including all records concerning any special education needs of the child before placement.
 - 6. ____ Records documenting all incidents that required the Dept to provide services to the child, including all orders of adjudication of dependency or termination of parental rights issued pursuant to chapter 39, any case plans

drafted to address the child's needs, all protective services investigations identifying the child as a victim, and all guardian ad litem reports filed with the court concerning the child.

7. ____ Written information concerning the availability of adoption subsidies for the child, if applicable.
- c. ____ If the adoption entity is unable to provide all of the required information, the adoption entity must execute an affidavit stating why the acknowledgment could not be obtained

8. Consent of Birth Mother

Form of Consent

1. ____ Notification of Right to select independent witness. **§ 63.082(4)(d).**
2. ____ Signed in the presence of two witnesses & acknowledged before a notary public who is not signing as one of the witnesses. ____ Date & time of execution.
____ Witnesses names & addresses printed or typed. **§ 63.082(4)(d).**
3. ____ If the child is more than 6 months old, the birth parent's consent must contain a statement that consent is subject to a revocation period of 3 business days.
§ 63.082(4)(c)&(e).
4. ____ If the child is 6 months or younger, the birth parent's consent must contain the language required in section **§ 63.082(4)(e) in at least 12-point boldfaced font.**
5. ____ Acknowledgment of receipt of consent signed by person whose consent is required. **§ 63.082(5).**

9. Legal Guardianship

Adoptive parents legal guardianship cannot be established until consent to adoption signed and court orders preliminary approval of placement of minor in prospective adoptive home.
§ 63.052(2).