

Figure: 26 TAC §749.4503(c)

<u>Required Information</u>	<u>Discussion, Assessment, and Documentation Requirements</u>
<u>(1) The age of each prospective kinship foster parent and any other member of the household.</u>	<u>The CPA must document the ages of all household members.</u>
<u>(2) The basic competency of each prospective kinship foster parent.</u>	<u>The CPA must ensure and document that each prospective kinship foster parent:</u> <u>(A) Can meet basic competencies, including basic reading, writing, and math; or</u> <u>(B) Have a support system in place that can immediately assist with these subjects.</u>
<u>(3) Personal characteristics.</u>	<u>The CPA must document information from the prospective kinship foster parents that demonstrate the CPA's assessment of:</u> <u>(A) Each parent's emotional stability, character, health, and adult responsibility; and</u> <u>(B) The ability to provide a caring environment, appropriate supervision, and responsible discipline.</u>
<u>(4) History of current interpersonal relationships, including marriages, common-law marriages, and other relationships between people who share or have shared a domestic life without being married.</u>	<u>The CPA must document information about the current relationship status of the prospective kinship foster parents.</u>
<u>(5) A history of the prospective kinship foster parents' residence.</u>	<u>The CPA must document the length of time spent at each residence for the last two years (street address, city, state).</u>
<u>(6) The financial status of the prospective kinship foster parents.</u>	<u>(A) The CPA must discuss with the prospective kinship foster parents the current reimbursement process, if applicable, and assess the prospective</u>

	<p><u>kinship foster parents' understanding of that process.</u></p> <p><u>(B) The CPA must assess and document that the prospective kinship foster parents have or have reasonable access to sufficient resources to support the household and all children in care.</u></p>
<p><u>(7) The results of criminal history and central registry background checks conducted on the prospective kinship foster parents and on any non-client 14 years of age or older who regularly or frequently stays at or is present in the home.</u></p>	<p><u>(A) The CPA must assess, document, and maintain the documented assessment of the background checks for the prospective kinship foster parents and any person, including any non-client 14 years of age or older who will be regularly or frequently staying at or is present in the home.</u></p> <p><u>(B) With respect to law enforcement service call information, the CPA must do the following.</u></p> <p><u>(i) Obtain service call information from the appropriate law enforcement agency for each of the prospective kinship foster parent's addresses over the past two years. Discuss with the prospective kinship foster parents any service call information that the CPA obtains from a law enforcement agency and the facts surrounding the incident.</u></p> <p><u>(ii) Regardless of background check results, ask the prospective kinship foster parents whether any law enforcement agency has responded to any of the prospective kinship foster parent's residences in the past two years. If the CPA obtains additional information from the prospective kinship foster parents, request background information from each law enforcement agency that responded. Discuss the incident and any additional background information that the CPA</u></p>

	<p><u>obtains with the prospective kinship foster parents.</u></p> <p><u>(iii) Assess and document information obtained from law enforcement and any discussion with the prospective kinship foster parents in the foster home screening.</u></p>
<p><u>(8) Health status of all persons living in the home.</u></p>	<p><u>Discuss, assess, and document:</u></p> <p><u>(A) Information about the physical and mental health status (including substance abuse history) of all persons living in the home in relation to the family's ability to provide kinship care; and</u></p> <p><u>(B) Whether any noted health-related issue may affect the prospective kinship foster parents' ability to care for a kinship foster child.</u></p>
<p><u>(9) The prospective kinship foster parents' values, feelings, and practices regarding child care and discipline.</u></p>	<p><u>(A) Discuss, assess, and document:</u></p> <p><u>(i) Each prospective kinship foster parent's experience caring for children;</u></p> <p><u>(ii) The ways each prospective kinship foster parent was disciplined as a child and the prospective kinship foster parent's reactions to the discipline; and</u></p> <p><u>(iii) Each prospective kinship foster parent's discipline styles, techniques, and ability to recognize and respect differences in children and use discipline methods suitable to an individual child.</u></p> <p><u>(B) Discuss the CPA's approved disciplinary methods. If a prospective kinship foster parent's current discipline methods are different than those that the CPA approves, the CPA must discuss and assess how the kinship foster parent would change child-care</u></p>

	<u>practices to conform to the CPA's approved methods.</u>
<u>(10) Each prospective kinship foster parent's sensitivity to and feelings about children who may have been subjected to abuse or neglect.</u>	<p><u>(A) Discuss, assess, and document each prospective kinship foster parent's:</u></p> <p><u>(i) Understanding of the dynamics of child abuse and neglect; and</u></p> <p><u>(ii) How these issues and experiences will affect the kinship foster parents, the families, and kinship foster children in care.</u></p> <p><u>(B) Assess and document the availability of family and community resources to meet the needs of the children in the kinship foster family's care.</u></p>
<u>(11) The attitude of other household members about the prospective kinship foster parents' plan to provide foster care.</u>	<p><u>Discuss, assess, and document the attitudes of other household members toward the plan to provide kinship foster care, including each household member's:</u></p> <p><u>(A) Involvement in the care of kinship foster children;</u></p> <p><u>(B) Attitudes toward kinship foster children; and</u></p> <p><u>(C) Acceptance of the verification as a kinship foster family.</u></p>
<u>(12) Support systems available to prospective kinship foster parents.</u>	<u>(A) Discuss, assess, and document the support systems available to each kinship foster parent and the support the family may receive from these resources. The CPA must ask each prospective kinship foster parent for information about any person who may provide support as a caregiver during an unexpected event or crisis, such as an illness or disability of a kinship foster parent, loss of transportation, or</u>

	<p><u>the death of an immediate family member.</u></p> <p><u>(B) Unless the person will be a caregiver immediately after the CPA verifies the home, a background check on the person does not have to be completed before the CPA verifies the home.</u></p>
<p><u>(13) Background information from other child-placing agencies.</u></p>	<p><u>(A) Request, assess, and maintain the background information that the other CPA provides.</u></p> <p><u>(B) The receiving CPA must address and document the closure or any identified risk indicators, as applicable, with the prospective kinship foster parents before approval and verification of the home if the background information indicates that:</u></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><u>(i) The kinship foster home was closed by the other CPA; or</u></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><u>(ii) There were any potential risk indicators that the other CPA did not adequately address with the kinship foster parents.</u></p>