

**A Caring Connection
of
Catholic Charities – Diocese of Lexington, KY**

Domestic Eligibility Requirements for Entrance into the Adoption Program

1. **Residency:** The couple must reside in the Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky for one (1) year prior to application. This comprises the counties of Anderson, Bath, Bell, Bourbon, Boyd, Boyle, Breathitt, Carter, Clark, Clay, Elliott, Estill, Fayette, Floyd, Franklin, Garrard, Greenup, Harlan, Jackson, Jessamine, Johnson, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Lawrence, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Lincoln, McCreary, Madison, Magoffin, Martin, Mercer, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Nicholas, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Powell, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Rowan, Scott, Wayne, Whitley, Wolfe and Woodford.
2. **Marriage:** The couple must have been married for three (3) consecutive years at the time of application. Persons divorced more than once will not be considered.
3. **Income:** The couple must demonstrate financial security.
4. **Health:** The couple must have the usual life expectancy, demonstrate emotional stability and be able to reliably attend to the care of children.
5. **Infertility:** The couple must have explored medical solutions and have substantially resolved related psychological issues. Adoption is reserved for those couples who have not been able to have biological children even though no medical reason may be found yet as to why they cannot conceive. If you are choosing to adopt a child rather than have a biological child, we cannot serve you for adoption.
6. **Age:** All applicants must be between the ages of 25 and 47.
7. **Children:** Couples who already have children must wait until the youngest child is at least one (1) year of age before being eligible to apply to adopt subsequent children from our agency.

**** In the case of children needing special placement, the ordinary requirements for admission to the adoption program may be waived in whole or in part at the agency's discretion.**

