

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **There are many Adoption Agencies why should I select ROLAA?**

You should select ROLAA because of cost, competence and commitment:

Cost: ROLAA charges low, flat rates for adoption services and none of those fees are at risk if the birth mother changes her mind. Fees that have been paid will be rolled over to the next adoption situation

Competence: ROLAA's case management staff are all experienced and degreed adoption professionals.

Commitment: ROLAA accepts a limited number of applicants during the Spring and the Fall of each year and those applicants are given priority for placement of all adoption situations

2. **How do I apply for Adoption?**

To apply call and leave your name, address, and phone number and the program you are interested in and we will mail you an information packet. You can also send this information by going to our website, www.rainbowoflove.org, and submitting an inquiry.

3. **What type of children are available for adoption?**

Most of the children placed by ROLAA are Caucasian, African American, and Hispanic. There are a number of biracial (B/W, B/H, H/W) children also placed. Very few Asian children are placed in adoption. No Native American children have been placed through ROLAA.

4. **Can I be race or gender specific concerning the type of child I would like to adopt?**

Yes, you may select the race or gender with the understanding that the adoption wait time will increase.

5. **How does ROLAA find the birth mothers?**

Birth mothers come to the agency through word of mouth, walk ins, internet calls and hospital calls. ROLAA advertises nationwide, on the internet, in local community newspapers and yellow pages. ROLAA also advertises throughout the State of Texas for birth mothers.

6. **Does ROLAA also place older children?**

Yes, ROLAA can place children up to the age of 17 into adoption. ROLAA works with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services to

place waiting foster children into adoption.

7. **Is there any benefit to adopting a waiting foster child?**

Yes, children waiting from the foster care system are 100% free for adoption and they would have a medical, dental and psychological exam prior to placement. You would also get all information on the child's situation and have a pre-placement visit. Some foster children adoptions may qualify for an adoption subsidy.

8. **How long will I have to wait for placement?**

That all depends on the type of child that you are desiring to adopt. After you have an approved home study, the wait time can vary from 2 weeks to 2 years.

9. **I live outside if Texas can I still adopt through ROLAA?**

Yes, if you have an approved home study that was done by a licensed child placing agency in your home state ROLAA can work with you. You will have additional fee for ICPC services and an out of state fee.

10. **Does ROLAA have a stipulation on the age in which someone can adopt?**

Yes, in the Domestic Infant Adoption Program, the adoptive parents must be between the ages of 25 to 55. In the State Adoption Program, the adoptive parents must be between the ages of 25 to 59.

11. **Can a single parent adopt?**

Yes, single parents are allowed to adopt if they have an active local support system, a role model for the absent parent, financial stability, and they meet all of the other requirements.

12. **Can I adopt more than one child at the same time ?**

You can adopt twins and triplets at the same time . More than one child can be adopted if there is at lease a 1 year wait in between the previous adoptions.

13. **Is there a limit to the number of children you can adopt through ROLAA?**

There is no limit, but each case is assessed on an individual basis.

14. **Can I have biological children and apply to adopt?**

Yes, you may have biological children and apply

to adopt. There should be no more than 3 additional children residing in the home.

15. **Can I be divorced and adopt?**

Yes, you can have up to two prior divorces. You must be divorced for at least 1 year if you want to adopt as a single parent and also meet the single parent guidelines above

16. **How long should I be married for to qualify for adoption?**

You should be legally married for at least two years.

17. **Do I have to have any special training to adopt?**

Yes, everyone will be required to attend the agency's orientation as well as be trained in CPR/ First Aid, SIDS/Shaken Baby Syndrome/Basic Baby Care. Those who are adopting TDFPS foster children will also be required to attend PRIDE classes. In addition everyone is expected to read at least one book on child development.

18. **Once I receive a placement how long do I have to wait before I can legally adopt the child?**

The child has to be in your home for 6 months before you can go to court to adopt. ROLAA will monitor the placement and provide the court with a post placement report at the end of the 6 month period.

19. **What happens when I go to court?**

Your attorney will file a "Petition to Adopt" and ROLAA will provide "Consent to Adopt" and a post placement report to the court. The judge will review those documents as well as your home study and background check and if all is in order, the adoption will be granted.

20. **If I live outside of the state of Texas, can I file the petition to adopt in my home state?**

Yes, you may finalize the adoption in your home state. If the child was born in Texas, ROLAA will terminate the parental rights in a Texas court, thereafter, you may request your attorney to change the venue for finalization.

21. **If I want to adopt another child can the same home study be used?**

You would need a home study update if the original home study is older than one year.