



# Resource Home Visit Guide

## In-Home Consult

In-Home Consult (IHC) is the initial assessment of a resource applicant's home to ensure the home meets licensing standards. The resource worker will create a plan of safe care for pools, trampolines or other potential hazards. For example, guns and ammunition must be locked, and separated unless kept in a gun safe. Also, all medications must be locked, and out of reach of children.

## Quarterly Visits

Your resource worker will test smoke detectors, verify that your fire extinguisher is operational, and ensure your evacuation route is posted. They will check your fire and tornado drill logs. They will also check medication logs. They will need to collect any information on changes in the home. Resource workers are required to make one unannounced (unscheduled) home visit per year to ensure the safety of the home. Quarterly visits are an appropriate time to discuss any concerns or problems you may be having with current placements and to share things that are going well. The role of the resource worker during these visits is to be a support to the resource parent.

## Annual Re-Evaluation

Re-Evaluation is when your resource worker collects updated information and changes from the past year: physicals for all permanent household members, proof of income (check stubs or taxes), immunizations, background checks, First Aid/CPR (if expired) and continuing education hours, in addition to completing the checks normally performed at a quarterly visit.

## Others Who Will Visit Your Home

Family Service Workers perform home visits at least monthly. They will ask to speak to the child privately. Family Service Workers will also want to see the bedroom where the child/children sleep. CASA and AALs (attorneys ad litem) may also visit the children in the home. A DHS Licensing Specialist may also visit your home once a year. Licensing Specialists are employees of the DHS Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education who ensure that DCFS employees are adequately monitoring resource homes as per the Child Welfare Agency Review Board's Minimum Licensing Standards requirements.