

Child and Family Services <b>PROGRAM STANDARDS MANUAL</b>	Section: 544	Effective: Oct 1/88 Revised: Dec 1/99	Page: 1
Subject: <b>POST-PLACEMENT CONTACT</b>			

Post-placement contact with the adoptive family is part of the continuum of adoption services. Follow-up visits, interviews and consultation are provided as required in the individual placement.

## STANDARDS

### 544.1 **Post-placement service**

Post-placement service focuses on helping the adoptive parents with their ongoing feelings about the child, changes in their own relationship, questions about the child's development and behavior, reactions of family, friends and neighbors, guilt about having taken the child, sibling rivalry and, most importantly, with helping the child understand and accept adoption.

### 544.2 **Initial contact**

A telephone contact is made **within one week** after the placement of a child within the adoptive family by the worker responsible for providing services to the adoptive parents.

### 544.3 **Initial interview**

An interview **within one month** is made in order to convey to the child and adoptive parents the agency's commitment to successful integration of the child into the family.

### 544.4 **Ongoing contact**

The timing of the post-placement contacts which include home visits, office contacts and telephone calls, depends on the age of the child, his/her special needs and the problems the adoptive parents might be having. Minimal contact is **once a month**.

### 544.6 **Supervision period**

Some adoptive parents may be ready to finalize the adoption legally in six months or less. Others, especially those adopting older children or children with special needs, may require more time. The supervising and guardian agency determines when an adoption under Division 1 can be finalized, taking into consideration the provisions of the Act.

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544.7 **Guardian agency approval**

An application for an order of adoption under Division 1 requires the approval on a prescribed form from the agency having guardianship of the child (Form AA-8).

Approval is to be based on an assessment of the placement done by the supervising worker and supervisor or adoption team.