

Adoption Decisions and Current Caretaker Considerations

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Identification and prioritization of possible adoptive resources

1. Relatives & Current Caretakers
2. General Applicants

"Current caretaker"
means a **resource parent** who:

- (a) Is currently caring for a *child* in the care and custody of the Department and has a *permanency plan* or *concurrent permanent plan* of adoption; and

(b) Has cared for the *child* or at least one *sibling* of the *child* for at least 12 months or for one-half of the child's or sibling's life if the *child* or *sibling* is younger than two years of age. Time spent caring for the child or sibling under this definition is calculated cumulatively.

Adoption selection considerations

ORS 109.270

- ☐ Consider each adoptive parent and their ability to meet the individual needs
- ☐ Consider children's relatives and current caretaker as having equal status and priority
- ☐ Consider relatives and current caretakers before considering others

OAR 413-120-0700 to 413-120-0760

- ☐ Best meet the current and lifelong needs of each child



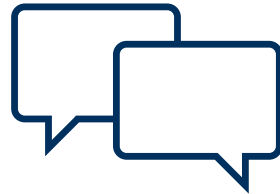
Adoption selection process for current caretakers

Child placed with current caretaker who wants to be adoptive resource*



*no relatives or other current caretakers who have come forward

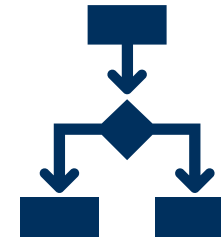
Caseworker consults supervisor, legal parties



Multiple families are considered



Central Office Adoption Committee



- Neutral members, a facilitator, the child's caseworker and legal parties
- Each committee member makes a recommendation
- Adoption Decision Specialist makes the adoption selection

Central Office Adoption Committee decisions are a small percentage of overall adoptions (2019-2022)

