



A NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART CURRICULUM IS COMING



The 'Real-Life' videos and examples are excellent tools for empowering foster/adoptive parents.

NTDC FACILITATOR

With funding from the US Department of Health and Human Services' Children's Bureau, a team of agencies developed the National Training and Development Curriculum (NTDC)—an interactive classroom and online curriculum that provides essential knowledge and tools to those interested in fostering or adopting. The curriculum also provides ongoing learning and development opportunities for families who are fostering or adopting. Currently, NTDC is being piloted and rigorously evaluated in eight sites across the country, including one tribal nation. In 2022, NTDC will be available **free** to all states, counties, territories, and tribal nations as well as all local and private foster and adoption agencies.

WHAT MAKES NTDC DIFFERENT?

- » NTDC is designed to be flexible, making it easy to adapt the curriculum to the needs of each site.
- » NTDC uses a modular framework, allowing each of the 1–2 hour themes on a topic to be conducted on their own or stacked with another theme.
- » The curriculum includes up-to-date information on trauma, separation, and attachment.
- » NTDC uses a layered content learning approach and incorporates the best principles of adult learning by using podcasts, videos, and experiential activities to practice and develop essential skills.
- » The curriculum features the voices of parents, professionals, and youth who experienced foster care and adoption.
- » NTDC offers comprehensive training for prospective foster and adoptive parents, and provides ongoing skills development that parents can access independently throughout their journey.

Although designed for families who want to foster or adopt from the child welfare system, NTDC has been adapted to meet the needs of various target populations, including

- » Kinship caregivers;
- » American Indian Alaskan Native foster and adoptive parents and;
- » Parents who have or are preparing to adopt from other countries or through private domestic adoptions.



HOW WAS NTDC DEVELOPED?

To create this innovative curriculum, the NTDC team of developers followed an in-depth process with the following components:

- » **Systematic review of literature** to examine characteristics and skills associated with placement stability and permanency;
- » **Review of existing curricula** designed for foster and adoptive parents;
- » **Interviews with key sources** with firsthand experience such as foster and adoptive parents, youth, and professionals to identify the characteristics, abilities, and trainings that contribute to successful placements;
- » **Interviews with national experts** in child welfare to identify the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed by prospective foster and adoptive parents;
- » **Survey** of 35 states to assess current trainings offered for foster and adoptive parents; and
- » Creation of a **Content Committee**, consisting of professionals and experts with lived experience, to help shape the curriculum content.

WHAT COMPONENTS MAKE UP NTDC?

The NTDC curriculum includes three components that as a whole provide participants with knowledge and skills important to successfully parenting children who have experienced trauma, separation, grief, and loss. The three components are:

Self-assessment. This component helps prospective foster and adoptive parents better understand certain areas of their existing knowledge and attitudes. Participants receive a confidential report that highlights areas where they need to learn more and offers additional information on key topics.

Right-time training. This online component provides ongoing learning to help parents meet their family's changing needs. Participants can access the 15 right-time trainings, which include online videos, podcasts, and other resources, at any time when they need to add to their knowledge or skills.

Classroom-based training. The classroom component encompasses 19 themes, two of which are completed online outside of the classroom. There are two additional themes that are specific for kinship caregivers.

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT NTDC?

The NTDC team is ready to work with sites interested in implementing this curriculum. To learn more about the curriculum and to get in touch with the NTDC team, go to <https://ntdcportal.org>



NTDC Orientation

Watch the slide and audio presentation *NTDC ORIENTATION* for an overview of NTDC: <https://ntdcportal.org/resources/>



NTDC Themes

Learn more about NTDC themes: <https://ntdcportal.org/curriculum/themes/>



Curriculum Samples

Look at samples of the curriculum: <https://ntdcportal.org/curriculum/sample-components/>



This product was funded by the Children's Bureau, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, under grant #90CO1132. The contents of this document are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Children's Bureau.