



Administration for Children & Families
Office of Refugee Resettlement

DNA Testing Instructions

What steps do I need to take to get my DNA test?

1. Read the *Authorization for Release of Information* carefully and complete the form.
2. Fax or email your sponsor specialist the completed *Authorization for Release of Information* and a copy of your photo ID. If you are unable to fax or email the documents, please send them by express or priority mail as soon as possible.
3. After submitting the *Authorization for Release of Information*, your sponsor specialist arranges a DNA testing session for you or will give you the contact information of the designated testing site to arrange your own appointment.
4. Attend your testing session at the scheduled time at the designated DNA testing site. You must bring the same photo ID that you submitted to your sponsor specialist with you to the testing site.
5. Contact your sponsor specialist after you attend your session to let him or her know you have been tested. Your sponsor specialist may have further instructions for you to follow to complete other aspects of your background check.

Do I need to pay for a DNA test?

There is no fee to you for having your DNA tested. However, you are responsible for any costs related to traveling to and from the testing site.

I changed my mind and do not want to provide my DNA. Can I still sponsor a child?

We will not deny your sponsorship application just because you do not want to submit your DNA. However, if you choose to continue with your application without providing a DNA sample, we will conduct a much more intensive background check on you, including visiting and inspecting your home, to ensure the safety and well-being of the child. This also means that the application process could take longer to complete.

When will I learn the results of my test?

For privacy reasons, we use the results of your test strictly for internal purposes and do not automatically release results to anyone outside of the government, the care provider, or the testing company.

Who can I talk to about questions or problems with the DNA testing process?

You can reach out to your assigned sponsor specialist with questions about DNA testing or any other part of the sponsorship process. You can also get help right away at any time of day from ORR's National Call Center by calling or texting 1-800-203-7001 or emailing information@ORRNCC.com.

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