

RELATIVE CAREGIVER CERTIFICATION COMPARISON



Certification does not add extra requirements or make caregiving more difficult. The same background checks, safety and caregiver assessments are required whether a caregiver is certified. Certification simply means fewer monthly visits and a higher monthly payment at the same rate as licensed foster homes.

Requirements	Certified	Unlicensed/Not Certified
Name and Fingerprint-based background checks	Required	Required
Safety and Needs Assessment	Required	Required
Caregiver Assessment	Required	Required
Monthly Visits by Caseworker	1 regular visit	2 regular visits
Monthly Payments	Same rate as licensed foster homes	90% of the rate as licensed foster homes



DCFS

Illinois Department of
Children and Family Services