Foster Care and Adoption in North Carolina

Recommended questions to ask when selecting a licensed child-placing agency for foster care and/or adoption

* Does your agency complete foster home licensure applications for families? Is there any cost to me?
* Does your agency provide TIPS-MAPP training? [This is the training that is required for foster home licensure and strongly recommended for families that wish to adopt children from the foster care system.]
* Does your agency provide an orientation or pre-screening activity such as home or office visit before we begin the TIPS-MAPP classes?
* If a family is interested in foster care and adoption do you complete pre-placement assessments and foster home licensure simultaneously, or are they separate processes? What does your approval process look like?
* How long on average does it take for a family to be licensed as a foster family and/or approved as an adoptive family from start to finish?
* Does your agency routinely work with families who want to adopt children from the foster care system? Is this your primary client base?
* Do you complete adoptive pre-placement assessments (adoptive home studies) for families when there is not yet a specific child identified for that family?
* After a family’s pre-placement assessment has been approved, what level of involvement do you continue to have with the family?
* I am interested in adopting a child that is listed on the Adopt US Kids website. Do you routinely work with NC Kids, Adopt US Kids, and/or adoption exchanges in other states?