



State of Florida  
Department of Children and Families

Rick Scott  
Governor

Mike Carroll  
Secretary

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**DATE:** January 13, 2015

**TO:** Regional Managing Directors

**THROUGH:** Pete Digre, Deputy Secretary/Operations  
Janice Thomas, Assistant Secretary for Child Welfare

**FROM:** Courtney Smith, Adoption Policy and Program Manager

**SUBJECT:** Adoption Applicant Update

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**UPDATE:** Individuals whose marriages were legally recognized in Florida as of January 6, 2015 are eligible to apply for adoption and adoption assistance within the State of Florida.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Please disseminate this memorandum to all Community-Based Care Lead Agencies.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** If you have any questions, please contact Courtney Smith, Office of Child Welfare, at (850)717-4660 or e-mail [Courtney.Smith@myflfamilies.com](mailto:Courtney.Smith@myflfamilies.com).

cc: Traci Leavine, Director of Child Welfare Practice  
Kellie Sweat Darnell, Director of Child Welfare Operations  
Family & Community Services Directors  
Governor's Office of Adoption and Child Protection  
Florida State Foster and Adoptive Parent Association  
CBC Contract Managers  
Barney Ray, Lead Agency Fiscal Accountability  
Rebecca Kapusta, Office of General Counsel

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Mission: Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Economically Self-Sufficient Families, and Advance Personal and Family Recovery and Resiliency