

Why Should I attend BCFCE?

Why should I attend BCFCE? I have been fostering for 20 years, I already understand the system, the Standards, and the challenges of fostering. Many long-term foster parents have been surprised at how much they learn from the curriculum, the facilitator, and the other participants.

Why should I attend BCFCE? If I attend a BCFCE class, I will sit through three hours of dry, academic material.

BCFCE facilitators on Vancouver Island have been involved in the fostering community in some way for many years. They bring a wealth of knowledge and personal experience to share and are engaging, dynamic speakers.

Why should I attend BCFCE? I work in a profession such as Early Childhood Education, Learning Assistance, Therapy/Counselling, or Youth Justice, I should not be required to take modules that apply to my area of expertise.

BCFCE isn't just about Child development, Guiding the Behaviour of Children and Youth, or Attachment and Loss. BCFCE is about how these subjects apply to fostering. What you do in your role as a professional may be quite different from what you do in your role as a caregiver.

Why should I attend BCFCE? I have to attend the modules in order, in one session. I cannot attend all of the modules scheduled for this session, therefore I cannot take any.

You can take the modules in any order over a number of sessions. While modules are meant to build on the material from previous modules, they can be understood in any order.

Why should I attend BCFCE? The goal of the BCFCE program is to provide information and promote understanding of the systems, standards, and policies associated with fostering in BC.

A major benefit of attending the BCFCE classes is the formation of networking and mutual support systems formed between individual foster parents. Many of these relationships are maintained long after the classes have ended. The program also promotes awareness of the support agencies and resources available in each community.

Why should I attend BCFCE?

Because it is required by your contract.

Why aren't snacks and coffee provided at BCFCE classes?

Last year, 250 Vancouver Island foster parents attended over 945 BCFCE modules. The cost of providing snacks and coffee for these classes would be approximately \$1,400 per year. FPSS Society is a non-profit organization that has not had an increase in funding in over ten years. We choose to use the funding we receive to provide workshops and peer support opportunities for foster parents. Participants are welcome to take turns bringing healthy, or not-so-healthy treats to share with the group.