



Domestic Open Adoption Program



Adoptions From The Heart, one of the first agencies to promote open adoption as an alternative to traditional adoption, believes open adoption is in the best interest of adopted children, birth parents, and adoptive parents. Open adoption provides children and adoptive families access to medical records and accurate information about birth families, and allows birth parents the opportunity to select the adoptive parents for their children. Open adoption arrangements vary in frequency of contact from sharing annual letters through Adoptions From The Heart as the intermediary, to visits and phone calls when desired by birth and adoptive parents.

How Does This Program Work?

Prospective adoptive parents are screened, educated and then asked to submit written profiles, photographs, and videos to Adoptions From The Heart. These materials are reviewed by birth parents when selecting adoptive families for their children.

Open Adoption involves pre-placement meetings between birth and adoptive parents, and some degree of openness after placement. Infants are placed directly from hospitals. A minimum arrangement may be an exchange of first names, letters and pictures through the agency as the child grows up.

Who is Eligible to Adopt?

- Single applicants and couples.
- Parents with or without children.
- Applicants wanting to adopt African-American children may reside anywhere in the United States and all other applicants must reside in PA, NJ, DE, VA, CT, or NY.
- Applicants need not be homeowners

Eligible Children?

Adoptions From The Heart primarily places newborn infants directly from the hospital. Occasionally toddlers become available but this is rare.

How Long is the Wait?

Since birth parents generally select the adoptive family for their child, waiting periods in this program vary. It may also vary depending upon the adoptive parent's flexibility.

What are the Fees & Costs?

Please be aware that there is up to a \$13,170 federal tax credit for families (*see Help With Financial Expenses Flyer for details*).

Placement fees for African-American children are subsidized due to the great need for families to adopt children of this heritage. Placement fees can be found on our fee schedules. Fees and costs for the program are based on the fee schedule in effect at the time services are provided.

** Some additional fees may apply, such as medical fees for birth and delivery that are not covered by insurance. All fees are approximate and subject to change at any time. For a fee breakdown, see the detailed fee schedule below.*



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FEE SCHEDULE Domestic Adoption Program

Fees that you are required to pay will be based on the fee schedule in effect at the time that the services are provided. See Description of Services for Fees Contract for details of services.

(These fees are guaranteed through June 30, 2012)
(All fees once paid are non-refundable)

Application Process	\$500
Home Study*	\$1400
Educational Course I.....	\$300
Educational Course II (half day)	\$150
Update of Previous Home Study*.....	**\$650/\$850
Review of current home study by other Agency*.....	\$300
Home study after 3 years in Agency Program*	\$850
Addendum to home study*	\$300
Program Fee.....	\$5,000
Pre-Placement Meetings *	\$100/hour
Placement (AA placements are subsidized)	\$15,000/23,000
Placement for out-of area birth parent program (\$3,000 less than above)	
Post Placement Reports (higher fee for NJ placements)*.....	\$1,700/\$2,500
Interstate Compact Fee (when applicable).....	\$1,500
NJ 72-hour Surrender of Parental Rights (when applicable)	\$1,800
CT Surrender of Parental Rights (including filing fee).....	\$1,950
CT Finalization fee (including filing fee).....	\$1,950
NY Surrender Witnessing Fee.....	\$500
Court appearance (if required)	\$400

Approximate Fees of Other Providers

NY Attorney's fee for birthparent Surrenders - \$3,000 including filing of ICPC

Legal fees for uncontested termination of birth parents rights** - approx. \$2,000 + costs

Legal fees for finalizing an uncontested adoption – approx. \$2,500 + costs

Cost of DVDs to the video company - \$371.00 in PA, others \$350

Actual medical expenses for birth and delivery that are not covered by insurance

*Travel Time: One-hour round trip from office is free. After that, the charge is \$45/half hour.

**Assume termination will be uncontested. Contested terminations will be at the attorney's hourly rate and costs.

*** Lower fee for current clients of AFTH