

# Guatemala



*Adoptions From The Heart takes great care in choosing partners for our international adoption programs and works diligently to ensure that the international process, from the application until you bring your child home to the United States, is a positive experience. There are children in foreign orphanages due to political, social or economic reasons who need loving homes. The governments of these countries recognize the importance of providing families for these children and have opened their doors to international adoption in order to provide them with the opportunity to have loving homes and a good life.*

AFTH is currently not accepting any new applications for the Guatemala Program. Please check back later for updates or sign up on our listserv by sending an email to [AFTHGuatUpdates-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AFTHGuatUpdates-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) with the word "Subscribe" in the subject line.

**If you would like to learn more about our other programs, please feel free to call us to speak with a social worker.**

## About the Children

Waiting children in Guatemala are boys and girls 6-8 months and older. Children reside with foster families. Siblings groups are available. Ethnically, Guatemalan people are of Mestizo (Spanish/Mayan) descent.

## Who is Eligible to Adopt?

- Married couples age 25 to 64 may adopt. (If the older spouse is 64, the other spouse must be at least 5 years younger.)
- Single women age 25 to 60 may adopt.
- Applicants with or without children
- Applicants from anywhere in the United States
- At least one member of a couple or a single applicant must be a U.S. citizen

## What are the Highlights of this Program?

- Adoptions are arranged through private attorneys and are very personalized.
- Adoptions From The Heart is Hague accredited.
- Basic medical information is available to the families before acceptance of the child.
- DNA testing is performed to ensure that the placing mother is the birth mother.
- Assistance is provided with fulfilling U.S. immigration and naturalization requirements as well as legal requirements in Guatemala.

## Is Travel Required?

Families need only travel for 3-4 days to Guatemala City. One parent may travel alone, but it is preferred that both parents travel together. Travel time by plane to Guatemala City is a short 2 1/2 hour flight from Miami. Children's immigration visas are completed in Guatemala City before families return home to the United States.

## What are the Fees & Costs?

The current agency fee for this program is approximately \$6,000. In-country fees are \$20,000. *\*Fees and costs are based on the fee schedule in effect at the time services are provided.*

*\* Does not include cost of travel, home study or supervision. All fees are approximate and are subject to change at any time. See the Guatemala Fee Schedule for a complete fee breakdown.*



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## ADOPTIONS FROM THE HEART GUATEMALA PROGRAM FEES AND EXPENSES AT A GLANCE

(Note: This summary is subject to all details, terms and conditions set forth on the Payment Schedule and Description of Services)

<b>Category</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Date of Payment</b>	<b>Recipient</b>
<i>Agency Fees</i>			
Application	500	With application	AFTH
Dossier Fee	\$2,000	Upon signing of contract	AFTH
[Second child*	\$2,000	Upon signing contract	AFTH]
Referral Fee	\$4,000	Upon acceptance of referral	AFTH
[Second child*	\$2,000	Upon acceptance of referral	AFTH]
<i>Social Services</i>			
If Adoptive Parents Reside in AFTH Service Area:			
Homestudy & Education (incl 1 hr travel)	\$1,600	Prior to first group edu session	AFTH
Home Study Update	\$600/800		
Ed Course II	\$300	Upon submission of update fee	AFTH
Post-Placements – 3 visits	\$ 900***	Upon acceptance of referral	AFTH
[Second child*	\$ 450***	Upon acceptance of referral	AFTH
If Adoptive Parents Reside outside of AFTH Service Area:			
Homestudy	varies		Third party
Post-Placement	varies		Third party
Homestudy Review fee	\$300	Homestudy review & approval	AFTH
<i>Foreign Fee</i>			
Program Fees per child	\$10,000	Upon accept of referral	Third party
	\$10,000**	Upon PGN approval	Third party
(** Second Child Fee Agency Fee Adjustments apply exclusively to cases commenced simultaneously with original case)			
(*includes foster care for six or less months)			
*** Fee for post-placement services are ones in effect at the time the child is placed			
<b>Total Fixed Fees: If Adoptive Parents Reside in AFTH Service Area - \$ 29,000 per child</b>			
<b>If Adoptive Parents Reside Outside AFTH Svc Area - \$26,900 (+ fees of other agency)</b>			
<b>Variable Fees paid to third parties (<i>estimates only</i>):</b>			
<i>Travel</i>			
Airfare – Approximately \$504/person **			
Hotel Accommodations – Approximately \$113/night x 2 = \$226 ** (\$100/night + tax)			
Food – Approximately 2 ½ days - \$70/day/person **			
In-Country Translator/driver/escort – Facilitates meeting with foster parent - \$300			
** seasonal variations, families may need to stay longer than 2 days			
<i>Documents</i>			
CIS – Fee for I600A and I600 – \$750 single and \$830/couple			
(\$670 + \$80 per adult living in home for fingerprints)			
Criminal Background and Child Abuse Clearances – varies by state – approx. \$10-100/document			
Document legalizations – approximately \$330-550 per child			
Mailings – Approximately \$150 per child			
Visas for Adoptive Parent(s) to Guatemala - \$0/person			

Visa and medical exam for child - \$425 per child  
DNA Test Fee (required by Guatemala, US Lab processing fee)- \$450 per child

Additional fees

Non-standard medical tests, care, hospitalization for the child

Foster care beyond six months - \$350/month per child

Optional Additional fees

Child Escort Fee (if child brought to US by escort) - \$2,000 plus costs per child

For NJ Residents only – NJ Fingerprint Fee - \$25/person

Processing Fee (if only one spouse travels, includes meeting with family) - \$200

Refinalization costs (per state requirements)

- Court report - \$250
- Post placement report - \$300
- Social worker required at hearing \$300

Legal Fees and filing fees in the United States for refinalization (varies)

US Citizenship – Current Fee for submission of N600 is \$460 per child

US Birth Certificate – Varies by State

Social Service Fees that May Apply

Homestudies requiring more than 1 hour of travel time – Travel Fee for Homestudy of \$45/half hour beyond first hour

Update Homestudy - \$600-\$800

Review of current homestudy and education course - \$600

***All fees are subject to change and not guaranteed***

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