



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 expecting 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 expecting parents when selecting families for their children.

Open Adoption involves pre-placement meetings between expecting 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 as well as one in-person visit a year.

Who is Eligible to Adopt?

- Single applicants and couples.
- Parents with or without children.
- Currently applicants must reside in CT, DE, NJ, NY, PA & VA
- Applicants need not be homeowners
- AFTH is currently ONLY accepting prospective adoptive parents who are open to a child of African-American/Black racial background OR families who are open to a child of ANY race, including African-American/Black, Caucasian/White, Asian, and Pacific Islander.

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 expecting parents generally select the adoptive family for their child, waiting periods for families vary. It also greatly depends upon the prospective adoptive parents' flexibility in their profile key. African-American couples and singles are in high demand by expecting parents.

What are the Fees & Costs?

Please be aware that there is up to a \$13,190 federal tax credit for families (*see Help With Financial Expenses Flyer for details*). 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, 2021)
(All fees once earned are non-refundable)

Application Process	\$500
Educational Courses	\$600
Educational Course (2 nd time families)	\$150
Home Study*	\$1,900
Update by AFTH of previous home study*	\$450
Six (6) month site visit in VA	\$175/each
Twelve (12) month site visit in VA.....	\$275
Home study review of current home study by another agency*	\$500
New Full Home Study after 2 years (CT) or 3 years in agency program (other states) *	\$850
Addendum to Home Study*	\$300
Program Fee	\$6,500
Gender Selection Fee	\$3,000
Pre-Placement Meetings*	\$125
Placement Fee for children up to 3 years.....	\$23,000
Twins	additional \$11,500
Out-of-area expectant parent placement (if AFTH is unable to do in person counseling).....	\$20,000
Post-Placement Reports*.....	\$2,000
Post placement reports for twins (1 ½ times the fee)	\$3,000
Interstate Compact (ICPC) Fee (when applicable)	\$2,000
NJ 72hr Surrender of Parental Rights (when applicable)	\$2,500
CT Surrender of Parental Rights (including filing fee)	\$2,750
CT Finalization Fee (including filing fee)	\$2,250/\$2,500
NY Surrender Witnessing Fee	\$500
Court Appearance (when applicable)	\$400
Court Report.....	\$500
NJ preliminary court report (if needed).....	\$250

Miscellaneous escrow \$1,000 required when matched

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

Fees paid to Other Providers

Medical expenses for birth and delivery <u>not covered by insurance</u>	actual cost
Costs of video recording to video company	\$350 - \$390 by state

Approximate legal fees paid to attorneys

PA

Legal fees for uncontested termination biological parent’s rights.....	\$2,000-\$2,500
Legal fees for finalizing an uncontested adoption	\$2,000 -\$2,500

NJ

Legal fees to finalize an adoption.....	\$2,385
Legal fees for both early court termination of parental rights and finalization.....	\$3,285
Legal fees for finalization alone.....	\$2,485

NY

Legal fees for BM attorney.....	\$2,000
Legal fees for TPR (at request of AP).....	\$3,000
Legal fees to finalize an adoption.....	\$3,500

VA

Legal fee to finalize adoption.....	\$4,000
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DE

Legal fee to finalize adoption.....	\$4,000
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CT

The Agency handles all legal work. No additional legal charges