



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. Because we are an open adoption agency and are seeing an increase in the requested number of yearly visits, all prospective adoptive parents must also be open to a minimum of 2 visits a year with the child's birth parents. And while it is not a requirement, AFTH encourages open relationships through direct communication with birth parents, via text/phone and email post placement.

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 all racial backgrounds and ethnic heritages.

Eligible Children?

Adoptions From The Heart primarily places newborn infants directly from the hospital. Occasionally toddlers are available.

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 \$14,440 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.*



Adoptions From The Heart®



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FEE SCHEDULE Domestic Open 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 December 1, 2023)

(All fees once earned are non-refundable)

Application Process	\$750
Educational Courses (Open Ed 1, Intersectionality, Transracial, Open Ed 2-2 nd time families)	\$500/each
Home Study	\$2,000
Update by AFTH of previous home study	\$500
Six (6) month site visit in VA	\$200/each
Twelve (12) month site visit in VA	\$300
Home study review of current home study by another agency	\$600
New Full Home Study after 2 years (CT) or 3 years in AFTH program (other states)	\$1000
Addendum to home study	\$750
Home study Restart Fee	\$300
Program Fee	\$6,800
Supervised Expectant/Birth Parent and Prospective/Adoptive Parent Meetings	\$150/hour
Placement Fee for children up to 3 yrs.	\$28,000
Twins up to 3 yrs.	Additional \$14,000
Placement Fee for children 4+ yrs.	\$15,000
Twins 4+ yrs.	Additional \$7,500
Out-of-area expectant parent placement (if AFTH is unable to do in person counseling)	\$25,000
Post-Placement Reports (3 years old or younger)	\$3,000
Post placement reports for twins (1 ½ X the fee)	\$4,500
Post-Placement Report (for a child 4 years and older)	\$1000/each (per child)
Interstate Compact (ICPC) Fee (when applicable)	\$4,000
NJ 72hr Surrender of Parental Rights (when applicable)	\$4,000
CT Surrender of Parental Rights (including filing fee)	\$4,250

CT Finalization Fee (including filing fee)	\$3,500
NY Surrender Witnessing & Notary Fee	\$500
Adoption Subsidy Assistance/Application Fee	\$2,500
Court Appearance (when applicable)	\$500/visit
Court Report	\$500/report
NJ preliminary court report (if needed)	\$250
Travel Fee	\$50/half hour
Misc. Escrow	\$1,000 req when matched

FEES PAID TO OTHER PROVIDERS

Medical Expenses for birth and delivery <u>not covered by insurance</u>	actual cost
Expecting/ Birth Parent Translation Fee	actual cost
Costs of video recording to video company	\$375-\$450 by state

APPROXIMATE LEGAL FEES PAID TO ATTORNEYS

Pennsylvania	
Legal fees for uncontested termination of biological parents' rights	\$2,000-\$3,000
Legal fees for finalizing an uncontested adoption	\$2,000-\$3,000
New Jersey	
The agency provides surrender of parental rights (see NJ 72 hr. Surrender of Parental Rights)	
Legal fees for both early court termination of parent rights and finalization	\$3,485
Legal fees for finalization of an uncontested adoption without early TPR	\$2,585
New York	
Legal fee for birth mother's attorney	\$2,000
Legal fees for TPR (at request of AP)	\$3,000
Legal fees to finalize an adoption	\$3,500
Virginia	
Legal fee to finalize adoption	\$3,000-\$3,500
Delaware	
Legal fee for TPR	\$2,200
Legal fee to finalize adoption	\$1950-\$2,350
Connecticut	
The agency handles all legal work. No additional legal charges	