

Heritage Adoption Services
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GENERAL DOMESTIC PROGRAM FEES
Oregon, Washington, Montana and Alaska Families

Program fees cover **all agency services**, which may include but are not limited to the following:

- Intake and assessment of birth parent calls.
- Screening, counseling, assistance with all required forms including the Social Assessment and the Genetic and Medical History.
- Completion of all necessary work required by the Interstate Compact for Placement of Children.
- Birth parent decision counseling.
- Family counseling with parents and siblings and all other casework services.
- Transportation of the birth parent to important appointments.
- Preparation of local adopting parents' home study and post placement reports.
- Approval of non-local families' home studies as required by Oregon laws.
- Adoption education workshop for parents.
- Preparation for and guidance through the matching process.
- Negotiation of the post-placement contact agreement.
- Development of the birth plan.
- Hospital social work services and discharge planning.
- Preparation of legal consents and execution, notary services.
- Budget planning with birth parents, financial monitoring and check issuing.
- Case conflict resolution for up to one year after placement. (Later assistance is available at an hourly rate.)
- Assembling legal documents and delivery to adopting parents' attorney.
- Post placement counseling for birth parents.
- Filing of post placement reports with the court in preparation for finalization of the adoption.

Adopting parents must choose an attorney to file their adoption in court. Fees are moderate and variable. We will be pleased to provide you with a list of attorneys who are members of the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys.

WHAT ARE THE FEES FOR THIS PROGRAM AND WHEN ARE THEY DUE?

~ The total agency fee for professional services is \$24,800 ~

This does not include birth parent expenses, any necessary travel for adopting families, or attorney's fees for filing the adoption. Fees are due at the time services are received. Usually that is as follows:

\$500.00 Application Fee.

Payable when you turn in your application packet. This indicates your commitment to work with us while initiating a file and case coordination.

\$1,200.00 Adoption Education Fee.

This covers our two day Seminar, related educational materials and any consultation & education you will need to prepare your Dear Birth Parent album. If you have adopted through our agency before, your class may be a ½ day private seminar. The class fee is due when you register for the class, OR meet with us to develop the materials, whichever occurs first.

\$2,200.00 Home Study Fee.

This is a legal document showing you as prepared and approved to adopt. It is due and payable before your home visit is scheduled. Round-trip mileage is also charged directly to the family by the social worker at the federal rate *. The family is to pay the worker directly at the time of the home visit.

\$1,500.00 Casework Coordination Fee #1

This facilitates the process of showing your album to birth parents who are prepared to select their adoptive parents and match with them. This is due at the time you turn in your final Dear Birthparent Album and are prepared to be shown and selected.

\$8,500.00 Match Fee.

The preparation for the match with all parties is what this fee covers. It includes showing a birthparent family albums, sharing birthparent biographical, genetic and prenatal information with the selected adoptive parents, explaining the laws of the state the adoption will occur in, arranging and facilitating the match meeting, and assisting all parties with the emotional turmoil of the experience. Due and payable at the time a decision is reached by the birth and adoptive parents to work toward a placement. This fee solidifies the match and must be paid within 24 hours of the match. The match fee is non-refundable.

\$1,000.00 Casework Coordination Fee #2

Casework document preparation, birthparent counseling, adoptive parent support and coordinating with other birth and adoption entities are what this fee covers. Due 30 days after a match has been solidified.

\$9,150.00 Placement Fee.

This pays for our presence at the hospital, which includes: facilitating a smooth process with hospital staff and hospital policies; assisting with the emotional confusion that happens at the hospital for birth and adoptive parents; working towards appropriate behavior from friends/family of the birthparent(s) who are at the hospital; signing of the consents; and smoothing the discharge process. It also includes preparation and execution of legal documents; delivery of documents to adoptive parents chosen attorney; filing all documents with ICPC; tracking the ICPC case through completion and case coordination with all entities and parties. *Due and payable when your child is placed in your physical custody, usually at the hospital, upon discharge.*

\$750.00 Post Placement Fee.

This covers your post placement visit, as well as case coordination with your attorney and the court system to ensure timely finalization of your adoption. Round-trip mileage is also charged directly to the family by the social worker at the federal rate*. Due and payable before your post placement visit will occur.

*The current Federal Rate is 58.5 cents per mile. Outside the Portland Metro area, there is also a fee for travel time at \$25 per hour round trip.

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+ Birth Parent Expenses.

Birth parent expenses vary from one case to the next. We will always give you our best estimate of a birth parent's anticipated expenses at the time we tell you about a potential match. At the time of the match, you will need to deposit funds with us sufficient to cover expenses we have already paid out on behalf of the birth parent, plus \$2,500 to cover anticipated future expenses.

We will send a statement monthly through the finalization of the adoption to keep you informed. If necessary, an invoice will accompany the statement to bring the available funds up to a minimum of \$1,000 or whatever is required for the next month's expenses.

Before finalization of the adoption, we will **refund** to you the portion not used for expenses or invoice you for any remaining amount due. **Average expenses range from \$2,500-\$5,000**, but may be higher or lower. It is typical for us to assist birth parents with their expenses one month post delivery for a vaginal delivery and six weeks for a cesarean birth.

The law allows you to assist birth parents with birth parent and baby medical expenses if not otherwise covered, maternity clothing and other necessities, basic transportation, lost wages replacement if needed, food, rent and utility assistance. We will be happy to discuss with you in detail our policy regarding birth parent expenses.

TOTAL ADOPTION COSTS (Fees + Birth Parent Expenses) MAY RANGE FROM AN EXTREMELY UNUSUAL LOW OF \$24,800 TO AN EXTRAORDINARY HIGH OF \$35,800. THE TYPICAL ADOPTION WILL BE BETWEEN \$27,300 AND \$29,800.

Fees must be received promptly within 48 hours of the time they become due. Any bank fees must be covered by the adopting family. We are happy to accept a wire transfer, a check, Visa or MasterCard. Due to the risk of loss, absolutely **DO NOT EVER** send fees via the post office, even registered, certified, express or otherwise. If necessary use a carrier such as FedEx that requires a signature upon receipt.

If you have questions or concerns regarding our fees or any other aspect of this program, please feel free to call **Deborah at 503.233.1099**, or email her at **daronson@heritageadoption.org**. We are happy to provide you more information.