



## **Adoption Fee Scale**

**2017**

### **Information Session**

Individual sessions to inform and educate you about the various types of adoption can be scheduled with our Adoption Specialists and are **Free** of charge.

### **Home Study Application**

There is a non-refundable application fee of \$250.00 to begin the Home Study process and create your adoption file. Fee is due at the time that the Application and Adoption Service Agreement is signed.

### **Domestic Adoption Home Study**

A fee of \$2,250.00 is due prior to the initiation of the home study. The home study is completed to determine the Adoptive Family's eligibility to adopt a child. There are additional fees for State and Federal Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) fingerprint background checks, and Child Abuse Record Information (CARI) background checks for each person living in the home who is 18 years or older. These fees can vary based on the number of adults in the home and the number of States in which each adult has resided. The initial home study is valid for a period of 12 months.

### **Training**

The completion of 10 hours of approved adoption parenting training is required during the home study process. Fees will be paid by the adoptive family directly to the on line learning partners or agencies that provide the approved adoption training. For example: Adoption Learning Partners (\$149-\$199 for 10-16) Adopt Education, LLC (\$120 for 10 hours)

### **Annual Adoption Study Update**

Home studies are required to be updated annually in order to receive the placement of a child. A fee of \$750.00 for each update is due prior to the home study update. The home study update includes a face-to-face home study visit and the creation of a written report. There are additional fees for Criminal History and Child Abuse Clearances for each person living in the home who is 18 years or older. The fees can vary based on the number of adults in the home.

## **Placements**

The placement fee is on a sliding scale fee based on 15% of the applicant's annual gross income (based on the most recent tax return). There is a minimum placement fee of \$10,800.00 and maximum fee of \$32,500. The placement fee covers birth parent counseling services, agency administrative costs, costs related to taking the voluntary surrender of parental right, and all activities related to reducing the risk that an adoption may be contested including but not limited to: searching for a birth parent (either named or unnamed) who may not have signed a voluntary surrender. These fees apply only when a child or children are placed with the adoptive family by CHS of NJ. If the Adoptive Family has a child or children placed with them through an entity other than CHS of NJ, then the Adoptive Family is fully responsible for the placement fees of the entity making the placement.

The placement fee is due within 30 days of the child or children being placed with the Adoptive Family. Should the Adoptive Family not be able to pay the entire placement fee within the 30 days, then reasonable payment arrangements can be negotiated. The Adoptive Family understands that CHS of NJ has the right not to provide finalization documents until the placement fee is paid in full.

## **Post Placement Supervision**

There is a fee of \$500.00 per visit per child. This fee covers face-to-face post placement visit in the home and the written report based on the findings of the visit. New Jersey Law requires 4 post placement visits be completed within six months following the placement of the child. However, if the child is placed from another State that requires more than four visits, the higher number of visits will be required. If finalization is not completed within the six month period, additional visits will be required on a quarterly basis. All household members are required to participate in post placement supervision visits.

\*State regulations require that post placement supervision visits continue until the finalization of the adoption, and the Adoptive Family understands that an additional \$500.00 per post-placement visit per child will be charged if the adoption cannot be finalized within the time frame allocated for the post placement visits paid in escrow, or the additional post placement supervisions are imposed by the Superior Court or other State or private placing agency to complete finalization. The Adoptive Family agrees to pay for as many additional visits that are necessary or required and fees must be paid prior to each additional visit.

Escrow payment is due on or before the date that the first post placement visit occurs and post placement cannot proceed without the escrow being paid. Should the adoptive placement disrupt for any reason, the unused balance of the escrow will be refunded minus a 5% processing fee within 30 days of the date that the adoption disrupts.

## **Court Report and Finalization Paperwork**

An \$850.00 fee is charged for the completion of a court report based on the results of the post placement visits, which makes a recommendation related to CHS of NJ's support of the adoption. This fee also includes the compiling of all documents necessary for the Superior Court to finalize the adoption. This payment is due on the day of the last face-to-face post placement meeting.

\*The adoptive family must retain an attorney to finalize the adoption. The cost of this is separate from the Agency’s finalization fee. CHS of NJ can provide the Adoptive Family with a list of suggested attorneys, but the Adoptive Family is not obligated to choose an attorney from the list.

**Interstate Compact (ICPC) processing fee**

A \$750.00 fee is charged for the preparation and submission of documents to allow for adoption across States and is required for all children who are placed from outside of New Jersey. This payment is due when the family receives a child that is placed from a State other than New Jersey.

**CHS of NJ Social Worker attendance at finalization (if requested or needed)**

When a Social Worker is needed to attend the finalization hearing to give evidence to the court, a \$200.00 plus travel expenses (per maximum IRS allowable mileage rate) will be charged. These fees apply only in cases in which the CHS of NJ Social Worker attends the finalization hearing. This is not typical. Fees are due during the post placement period.

**Counseling Services to Birth Parents**

\$100.00 per hour plus travel expenses (per maximum IRS allowable mileage rate) is charged when a placing entity other than CHS of NJ requests CHS of NJ to provide counseling services to birth parents, including surrender counseling and the taking of a voluntary surrender. These fees are due prior to services being rendered.

The Adoptive Family agrees to pay all fees as outlined above at the timeframes noted above. CHS of NJ agrees that once the Adoptive Family signs this fee schedule, CHS of NJ will not change its fees for the Adoptive Family.

---

Adoptive Parent Name	Date	CHS of NJ Adoption Staff Name	Date
----------------------	------	-------------------------------	------

---

Adoptive Parent Signature	Date	CHS of NJ Adoption Staff Signature	Date
---------------------------	------	------------------------------------	------

---

Adoptive Parent Name	Date	CHS of NJ Adoption Staff Name	Date
----------------------	------	-------------------------------	------

---

Adoptive Parent Signature	Date	CHS of NJ Adoption Staff Signature	Date
---------------------------	------	------------------------------------	------