

# Adoption Center of Illinois at Family Resource Center

## Adoption Programs Overview and Fee Structure

All fees paid are non-refundable unless otherwise noted. All fees are reviewed annually by our Board of Directors and are subject to change. See Refund Policy. There is no guarantee of placement in any adoption program.

### Description of Adoption Programs

**Home Study Only (HSO) Program** – Our agency completes a Home Study (Domestic or International) for Illinois prospective adoptive parents who are working with other placing resources (agencies and/or attorneys). Our agency's HSO Program for International Adoption does not include Primary Provider Services. Any family pursuing International Adoption must identify and retain a Primary Provider to oversee their International Adoption.

**Traditional Adoption Placement (TAP) Program** – Our agency works with birth parents (BPs) that have approached the agency to explore the option of developing adoption plans for their children. We assist BPs to find potential placements for their child by sharing profiles of our prospective adoptive parents who may be a good fit. To minimize prospective adoptive parents' financial risk, there are no matching fees and our agency pays all BP expenses.

**Agency-Assisted Placement (AAP) Program** – Similar to our TAP program, our agency supports BPs and prospective adoptive parents throughout the adoption process. With the AAP program, prospective adoptive parents have already identified a BP residing in Illinois who is considering placing a child for adoption. Prospective adoptive parents pay for staff expenses (mileage, time, etc.) and legally allowable BP expenses (that they have approved). These fees are not recoverable if placement does not occur. The placement fee is only paid if the adoption is successful.

**Waiting Child Services (WCS) Program** – Our agency supports prospective adoptive parents to navigate the various foster care systems throughout the US, including Illinois, by helping them identify and obtain information about children available for adoption. Once matched, our agency will coordinate the process with the agency or sending state.

**Primary Provider Services** – Our agency may be able to serve as the Primary Provider for your international adoption, in particular for relative or parent-identified adoptions. This service is independent and separate from the international home study service. Family Resource Center (the legal name of Adoption Center of Illinois) has been a Hague-accredited agency since 2008. This accreditation allows us to act as an Accredited Adoption Service Provider (ASP) for international adoptions, both Hague adoptions and non-Hague adoptions.

**Hague Outgoing Primary Provider** – Family Resource Center (the legal name of Adoption Center of Illinois) is a Hague-accredited agency accredited for Outgoing adoptions. We work with prospective adoptive parents residing in other Hague Convention countries who are interested in pursuing the adoption of a child in the United States, either through our TAP program or when families independently locate US children available for adoption through their own resources.

***Please note:*** Prospective adoptive parents are responsible for obtaining legal counsel at their own expense. Prospective adoptive parents are also responsible for expenses including but not limited to: fingerprinting, registry clearances when prospective adoptive parents have resided in other states/countries, out-of-state agency expenses, travel and lodging, USCIS fees for international adoption.

## Home Study Only (HSO) Program

### Phase I: Comprehensive Home Study Services

**Services:**

- Initial Application Interview
- Orientation
- Home Study<sup>1</sup>
- Adoption Education/Training (classes offered at our agency)
- Up to 5 Post Placements Visits for one child
- Court report
- ICPC (Interstate Placement of Children) for Domestic

<sup>1</sup>All domestic home studies must be updated annually for a \$700 fee until placement occurs. All International home studies must be updated when prospective adoptive parents I800A/I600A will be expiring (if prospective adoptive parents have not filed an I800/I600 for a specific child).

**Fee [due with application]: \$4,400**

**\$4,100 for returning ACI applicants**

Please note: Our agency's HSO Program for International Adoption does not include Primary Provider Services. Any family pursuing International Adoption must identify and retain a Primary Provider to oversee their International Adoption.

# Traditional Adoption Placement (TAP) Program

## Phase I: Comprehensive Home Study Services

**Services:**

- Initial Application Interview
- Orientation
- Home Study<sup>1</sup>
- Adoption Education/Training (classes offered at our agency)
- Up to 5 Post Placements Visits for one child
- Court report
- FBFA Application (TAP Only)
- ICPC (Interstate Placement of Children)

<sup>1</sup>All domestic home studies must be updated annually for a \$700 fee until placement occurs.

**Fee [due with application]: \$4,400**

\$4,100 for returning ACI applicants  
\$2,600 for applicants with current Home Study<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>Fee only applies to applicants who are using another agency to provide home study and post placement services.

## Phase II: TAP Program

**Services:**

- BPs outreach/advertising efforts
- Emergency response service – staff on call 24 hours per day
- Support/feedback in the creation of family profiles
- Presentation of family profiles to Illinois BP's
- Family profile on our website
- BP expenses paid by agency
- Coordination of post-placement communication plan between APs and BPs

**Fee [due after acceptance into program]: \$6,000**

## Phase III: Placement

**Fee [due at the time of placement]: \$26,000<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>3</sup>Sibling Placements: When two or more children from the same birth parent(s) are placed at the same time through the TAP program, prospective adoptive parents will pay \$39,000 (1.5 full placement fees).

## Total Fees for TAP Program

**\$36,400**

\$36,100 for returning ACI applicants  
\$34,600 for applicants with current Home Study

**Family Based Financial Aid – TAP PROGRAM ONLY:** Our Board of Directors created the FBFA program to support prospective adoptive parents from a wide range of economic circumstances in pursuing adoption. The FBFA program provides non-cash grants to prospective adoptive parents who demonstrate financial need. Need is not determined strictly on an income-based sliding scale. This program takes into account a variety of factors including, but not limited to: household income, assets, age, extenuating circumstances, extraordinary medical expenses, and number of dependents. However, in reviewing financial aid grants awarded over the past 10 years, it is extremely rare that financial aid is awarded when the total household income of the prospective adoptive parents is over \$135,000 unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Prospective adoptive parents have the option of applying for FBFA prior to submitting their Phase I fee by submitting a non-refundable \$250 fee payable to Adoption Center of Illinois. Prospective adoptive parents must otherwise apply for FBFA within 60 days of submitting their application and Phase I fee, with no additional FBFA application fee.

FBFA award amounts range from \$1,000 to \$13,000. If any amount of FBFA is awarded, \$1,000 of the total award amount will be applied to Phase II fees. Financial aid grants can only be applied toward the TAP Program Phase II program fee and Phase III placement fee. At the time of placement, your financial aid grant letter will act as cash in your payment of the placement fee. *This program is only open to US citizens and US residents.*

## Agency-Assisted Placement (AAP) Program

**Services:**

- Initial meeting and assessment with potential birth parent

**Fee: \$400 + mileage and travel expenses**

### Phase I: Comprehensive Home Study Services

**Services:**

- Initial Application Interview
- Orientation
- Home Study<sup>1</sup>
- Adoption Education/Training (classes offered at our agency)
- Up to 5 Post Placements Visits for one child
- Court report
- ICPC (Interstate Placement of Children)

<sup>1</sup>All domestic home studies must be updated annually for a \$700 fee until placement occurs.

**Fee [due with application]: \$4,400**

\$4,100 for returning ACI applicants  
\$2,600 for applicants with current Home Study<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>Fee only applies to applicants who are using another agency to provide home study and post placement services.

### Phase II: AAP Program Services and Fees

**Services:**

- Emergency response service – staff on call 24 hours per day
- Birth Parent counseling services to identified BP(s)
- Coordination of hospital plan
- Management of BP Expense Fund
- Coordination of post-placement communication plan between APs and BPs

**Fee [due with submission of AAP Program Agreement]: \$2,000**

\$2,000 for first 16 hours / \$125 per hour thereafter

**Birth Parent Expense Fund: \$2,500**

These are funds deposited with our agency to be used for BP and related expenses.

BP expenses may exceed this amount.

### Phase III: Placement

**Fee [due at the time of placement]: \$5,500<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>3</sup>Sibling Placements: When two or more children from the same birth parent(s) are placed at the same time through the AAP program, prospective adoptive parents will pay \$7,500 (1.5 full placement fees).

### Total Fees for AAP Program (excluding BP Expense Fund)

**\$11,900**

\$11,600 for returning ACI applicants  
\$10,100 for applicants with current Home Study

## Waiting Child Services (WCS) Program

### Phase I: Comprehensive Home Study Services

**Services:**

- Initial Application Interview
- Orientation
- Home Study<sup>1</sup>
- Adoption Education/Training (classes offered at our agency)
- Up to 5 Post Placements Visits for one child
- Court report
- ICPC (Interstate Placement of Children)

<sup>1</sup>All domestic home studies must be updated annually for a \$700 fee until placement occurs.

**Fee [due with application]: \$4,400**

**\$4,100 for returning ACI applicants**

### Phase II: WCS Program

**Services:**

- Pre-placement matching assistance
- Obtaining information about available children
- Coordinating process with the sending state
- Identifying and locating services that may be needed (i.e. counseling, psychologists)

**Fee [due after acceptance into program]: \$2,600**

**Program fee due annually (after the initial 24 months has expired): \$600**

### Phase III: Placement

**Fee: \$0**

### Total Fees for WCS Program<sup>3</sup>

**\$7,000**

**\$6,700 for returning ACI applicants**

<sup>3</sup>Total fees do not include travel expenses; fees also do not include WCS program fee if prospective adoptive parents are in WCS Program for more than 24 months.

## Primary Provider (International Only)

### Phase I

**Services:**

- Initial Consultation with other adoption service providers, in-country attorneys and/or foreign authorities as needed
- Review of any adoption documents already obtained
- Determination of the viability of providing primary provider services
- Includes a \$500 Monitoring and Oversight fee that agency will pay directly to IAAME, the accrediting entity, for the adoption of ONE child.

**Fee: \$2,500**

### Phase II

**Services:**

- Ongoing communication and/or supervision of home study service provider, foreign supervised providers, foreign attorneys, foreign and US governmental agencies and Central Authorities.
- Review of all documentation required to verify completion of all six-adoption services in order to allow prospective adoptive parents to apply for visa for child's entry to United States. Support and assistance with USCIS and Visa application process.

**Fee: \$3,000**

## Hague Outgoing Primary Provider (International Only)

### Phase I

**Services:**

- Review of current Home Study and Article 15
- Orientation to the Hague Convention process
- Communication with other adoption service providers (ASPs)
- Determination of the viability of the possible adoption

**Fee: \$2,500**

### Phase II

**Services:**

- Ongoing communication and/or supervision of other ASPs
- Preparation of all required preliminary documents in compliance with the Hague convention

**Fee: \$2,500**

### Phase III: Placement

**Services:**

- Review and/or preparation of Child Background Study, Birth Parent consents, Article 16 letter, Article 17 letter, post-placement supervision reports, and documentation for Hague Adoption Certificate

**Fee: \$2,500**

## Additional Services

Service	Fee
<p><b>Expedited Fee (For emergency situations only):</b></p> <p>Our agency can expedite the Home Study process and visit to your home. However, criminal clearances, references, medical releases, etc. may delay completion of the final Home Study, as our agency cannot expedite these items.</p>	<b>\$800</b>
<p><b>Home Study Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Required when a prospective adoptive parent moves to a new address or if there is the addition of a household member, including the birth of a biological child.</li> <li>• Domestic home studies must be updated annually until placement occurs</li> <li>• International home studies must be updated when prospective adoptive parents I800A/I600A will be expiring (if prospective adoptive parents have not filed an I800/I600 for a specific child)</li> <li>• Home Study is converted from one format to another (i.e. Domestic to International, China to Ethiopia, Domestic to Waiting Child Services)</li> </ul>	<b>\$700</b>
<p><b>Posts:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phase I fee includes up to five (5) post placement visits for one child; each additional post will need to be billed.</li> <li>• Cost for each additional child per visit, if posts are conducted concurrently</li> </ul>	<b>\$350</b>
	<b>\$100</b>
<p><b>Court Report:</b></p> <p>Fee applies only in situations when ACI did not complete the Home Study</p>	<b>\$500</b>
<p><b>Hourly Consultation Rate:</b></p> <p>For all senior staff services – individual interviews, private consultation, post adoption services.</p>	<b>\$125 per hour</b>
<p><b>Mileage:</b></p> <p>If a prospective adoptive parent resides more than 100 miles round trip from either our office (60660) or our downstate workers they will be assessed a mileage charge for each mile beyond 100 miles traveled for any agency related home visit (Home Study, post, etc.). This fee is based on the Internal Revenue Service proposed rates.</p>	<b>58 cents per mile</b>
<p><b>Environmental/Safety Assessment:</b></p> <p>A court ordered assessment required to obtain visitation or custody of a biological child residing out of state. This fee covers the first 12 hours of service provided (average time spent on assessments). Additional hours after the first 12 hours of service will be billed at the hourly rate of \$120.</p>	<b>\$1,500</b>
<p><b>Hosting Study:</b></p> <p>In-home assessment in order to host an international child. If prospective adoptive parents continue to pursue an adoption, \$2,000 will be applied to the current home study fee of \$4,400 (\$2,400 balance will be due).</p>	<b>\$2,200</b>
<p><b>Embryo Home Study:</b></p> <p>Fee covers the application, Home Study, and one post-placement visit. If an embryo adoption is not completed and the prospective adoptive parents wish to apply for a Domestic Home Study, \$2,400 will be applied to the current home study fee of \$4,400 (\$2,000 balance will be due).</p>	<b>\$2,600</b>

Prospective adoptive parents are responsible for obtaining legal counsel at their own expense. Prospective adoptive parents are also responsible for expenses including but not limited to: fingerprinting, registry clearances when prospective adoptive parents have resided in other states/countries, out-of-state agency expenses, travel and lodging, USCIS fees for international adoption.

<b>Third Party Fees to Complete Home Study</b> (Estimated fees that are not paid to Agency)		
<b>Service</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Due</b>
<b>Illinois State and FBI Fingerprinting</b>	<b>\$57.45 each</b>	At Fingerprinting Site
<b>State Child Abuse Checks</b>	<b>\$0-\$30 each</b> <i>Varies by State</i>	Submission of Child Abuse Checks
<b>Documents:</b> (copies of birth certificates, marriage license, divorce decree, employment verifications, etc.)	Varies	Request for Document from Issuing Entity
<b>Medical Exam</b>	Co-pay	At Medical Visit

If adopting internationally, Participants will be responsible for payment of additional costs, expenses and fees payable predominately to the Primary Provider (PP). The below are estimates and the PP will be responsible for providing Participants estimates for the following fees including but not limited to:

<b>Third Party Fees for International Adoption – Home Study Only</b> For Participants NOT Using Agency as a Primary Provider	
<b>Passport</b> (For applicants without current US passport)	<b>\$110 per person</b>
<b>USCIS application</b> All U.S. families must receive approval from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) before bringing a child to the U.S. for adoption. USCIS requires families to pay an application and fingerprinting fee.	<b>\$805</b> application, plus <b>\$30</b> fingerprinting fee per adult in household
<b>Pre-adoption Medical Review of Child Referral</b> Review of child referral with a pediatrician experienced in international adoption to discuss potential diagnoses and outcomes as well as identify resources needed to meet the child's needs.	<b>\$250 - \$800</b> (costs vary by reviewer)
<b>Document Translation/Interpretation Services</b> Costs for obtaining, translating, or copying records or documents required to complete the adoption, costs for the child's court documents, passport, adoption certificate and other documents related to the adoption, and costs for notarizations and certifications.	<b>\$50-60 per hour</b> <b>10-25 cents/word</b>
<b>Child Expenses in-Country</b> Clothing, food, shelter, medical care, foster care services, orphanage care, and any other services provided directly to the child.	<b>\$300/month</b> (estimate)
<b>Child Medical Examination in-Country</b> Should the general examination reveal the need for additional tests or a more specialized examination, the work would be performed by consultants chosen by the applicants or	<b>\$88</b> plus immunizations as needed



designated by you. Any fee in conjunction with further tests or examinations will be at the expense of the applicant. Any additional chest radiographs or laboratory tests required to clarify results compromised by performance or laboratory error must be performed at no extra charge to the applicant.	(estimate)
<b>Immigrant Visa interview and processing fee</b>	<b>\$325</b>
<p><b>International Re-Adoption</b></p> <p>Adoptive parents are recommended and/or required to re-adopt their child once arriving in the United States. Once the child is in the US, recognition and validation of the adoption is subject to the laws of the parents' state of residence. Depending on your state's requirements, you may need to obtain help from an attorney to complete the court finalization process. Please review <a href="http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubpdfs/intercountry.pdf">www.childwelfare.gov/pubpdfs/intercountry.pdf</a> for further information.</p>	<b>\$25 - \$1,500</b> (costs vary by state)
<p><b>In-Country Adoption Fees Including Required Contributions</b></p> <p>Orphanage fee, attorney fees, court costs, birth certificate, passport, and any other costs related to providing adoption services in the child's country of origin, contributions to the child protection/child welfare service programs in the child's country of origin or in the United States.</p>	<b>\$500 - \$2,000</b>
<p><b>Travel Cost Estimate</b></p> <p>Travel expenses vary greatly depending upon where you go and the time of year that you travel. These expenses include airfare, lodging, meals and ground transportation.</p>	<b>\$3,000 - \$10,000</b>

## **Adoption Center of Illinois at Family Resource Center's (ACI) Refund Policy**

Unless otherwise stated below, all fees paid to our agency are non-refundable.

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### **Phase I Fee for Domestic Programs, International Home Study Services, and Croatia Program**

A portion of the Phase I fee may be refundable under the following circumstances:

A] If prospective adoptive parents submit an application to our agency and withdraw<sup>1</sup> it before the initial application interview, all but \$250 of the Phase I fee is refundable. A refund check will be mailed within 60 days of a written request.

B] If prospective adoptive parents submit an application to our agency and withdraw<sup>1</sup> it after the initial application interview, all but \$1,500 of the Phase I fee is refundable. A refund check will be mailed within 60 days of a written request.

C] There shall be no refund of the Phase I fee (which includes post-placement/adoption report fees) once the assigned home study worker begins the home study interview process. The post-placement/adoption report fees are part of the all-inclusive Phase I fee.

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### **TAP Program Phase III Placement Fee**

The Placement fee paid by prospective adoptive parents will be fully refunded by ACI in the event that the adoptive placement of the child is reversed prior to the finalization of the adoption, due to a successful legal challenge brought by a putative/biological father and the subsequent loss of custody of the child by the prospective adoptive parents. This refund will be made within 60 days after the return of the child to ACI.

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### **Agency-Assisted Placement Program "Expense Fund"**

The unused portion of the prospective adoptive parents "Expense Fund" is refundable as per the terms set forth in the Agency-Assisted Program Agreement entered into between ACI and prospective adoptive parents.

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### **Croatia Program Fees**

With the exception of the Phase I fee, when ACI completes the International Home Study (see above), Phase II and Phase III fees are non-refundable.

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### **Primary Provider Program Fees**

With the exception of the Phase I fee, when ACI completes the International Home Study (see above), all Primary Provider fees are non-refundable.

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### **Outgoing Primary Provider Program Fees**

Fees are due at three separate stages in the progression of an Outgoing adoption. All fees paid are non-refundable.

<sup>1</sup> An application shall be considered "withdrawn" when prospective adoptive parents send an email to an ACI staff member indicating their desire to withdraw their application.