

# Independent Adoption

Working with Expectant Family and Adoptive Family

Domestic Infant Adoption is a fee-based program. Adopting families are charged for the services that are provided. Costs are associated with all phases of the adoption process and include, but are not limited to, counseling and support of expectant parents, adoption education, support groups, family assessment, interim care, post-placement support, legal documentation and finalization. If an expectant mother is in need of rent and medical care, Bethany evaluates each request and only passes along costs you have agreed upon beforehand. This means there are no hidden fees or costs to surprise you along the way. The following includes major expenses involved in adopting a child through Bethany Christian Services, with the exception of legal, medical and/or birthparent expenses. Additional expenses may include fees for obtaining copies of documents (birth, marriage certificates, etc.) and mailing costs.

<b>Formal Application Fee</b> (due with formal application, non-refundable)	<b>\$ 550</b>
<b>Homestudy Services Fee</b> (due on or before home assessment interview)	<b>\$ 3,500</b>
<i>The Homestudy Services Fee is 50% refundable if written request is received before the last home visit</i>	
<b>Program Fee #1</b> (due before beginning of services to expectant parents)	<b>\$ 3,000</b>
<i>If a placement does not occur, this fee will be refunded after charges of \$100 per hour for time billed</i>	
<b>Program Fee #2</b> (due at placement, non-refundable)	<b>\$ 5,500</b>

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**Total** **\$12,550**

**Refund Policy: All fees are paid at time of service and are non-refundable unless noted otherwise**  
**All fees are due by date of placement.**

*Fees due at placement include all costs associated with the birthparent and adoption service (i.e. pre-birth and post-birth counseling, and legal processing for uncontested termination of parental rights. Costs do not include legal fees for finalization).*

*Contested Adoption administrative and legal fees are not included in the fees listed above. This additional cost will be the responsibility of the adoptive couple. The couple will be notified in advance if this applies to their case and will be given the option to decline placement due to adoptive placement being contested.*

**Other expenses that will be passed directly to adoptive parents may include:**

- Medical expenses related to the pregnancy, birth and care of the child
- Court fees, Putative Father Registry search fees
- Living expenses for birthmother
- Interim care, charged at \$30 per day
- An additional fee of \$600 if Interstate Compact is processed
- Training for prospective adoptive parents that is not provided by Bethany
- Additional required home visits are billed at \$300 per visit
- **Annual Home Study Update or addendum— required 12 months from date of signed home study \$500**  
*(Necessary when changes occur in the family such as a job change, move or adoption plan, usually requiring a home visit.)*
- FedEx or UPS expenses
- Families adopting in Illinois are required to cover the cost of their attorney
- Travel costs (a round trip of 100 miles or more will be billed, after two hours of travel and 100 miles, at \$50 per hour plus .55 per mile) including mileage and hotel if overnight stay is required.

*Effective January 1, 2018*