

Your Adoption Journey is about to begin...



Thank you for visiting J & J Adoptions website and providing us the opportunity to help you build your family through adoption.

I am an adoptive parent myself who adopted my daughter and son. Adopting both of my children not only helped me complete my family it has given me the opportunity to help other families with their adoption journey.

Please feel free to call me at 209.653.1717 to go over all the information I have attached. I know how overwhelming the process of searching for the right adoption company can be. My goal is to help guide you through your adoption journey as smoothly as possible.

Everyone at J&J Adoptions has been involved with adoption or are adoptive parents themselves. There are a lot of fees that are involved with your adoption which vary depending on the circumstances. An independent, private adoption should be between \$20,000.00 and \$50,000.00. J&J Adoptions does not match expected adoptive parents with expecting parents. If you would like we can refer you to a company within our network that will work best for your situation.

You will need to get a home study completed by a Clinical Licensed Social Worker in your home state. If you need assistance finding someone, we are more than willing to help you with this. The home study process is quite simple. The fees vary from state to state from \$1000.00 to \$4000.00.

Once you decide to have J & J Adoptions help you with your adoption journey you will become a part of our family. We will help you create your make "Profile Books" that are photobook type profiles. These profiles are sent out to all the birth families that match what you are looking for by your adoption agency or adoption attorney. Once a Expectant family picks you and has submitted all the documents needed, your agency will contact you to set up a phone conference with the Expectant family. If everything goes smooth, you will be matched. You will be in contact with the Birth family throughout the pregnancy until the baby is born. Your agency will coordinate with the hospital and social workers to make sure the staff is aware there is an adoption plan in place, the baby will be released to you from the hospital. You will need to pay the social worker to relinquish the expectant mother's parental rights, this fee ranges from \$500.00 to \$750.00.

If the baby is born out of your home state, your agency will need to coordinate with your state and the expectant family's state to get the Interstate Compact approval to move the baby out of that state. The fee for this is between \$1500.00 and \$2000.00. You will need to plan on staying in the birth state until approval, this can take up to 14 business days. Make sure you plan last-minute flights and hotel fees as well.

I would be honored to go over the adoption process with you, please give me a call at 209.653.1717 or email at Khimm@JJAdoptions.com if you have any questions, please give us a call. I look forward to helping you with your adoption journey.

Sincerely, **Khimm** J&JAdoptions 209.653.1717



Steps to Adoption

The following is a general overview of how to start your adoption process. If you have any questions about the information listed below, please contact us at (209) 653.1717.

Step 1 ~ Initial Information

After you have decided to have J & J Adoption help you with your adoption journey you will become part of the J & J family.

Step 2 - Information

You will need to sign up with an Adoption Agency or Adoption Attorney that will help you with the matching process of your adoption journey. You may want to start gathering photos for your profile book. It helps pass the time and you will be ready to go.

Step 3 - Preparation and completion of Paperwork

Start your expectant parent letter, this is what is sent out to the expectant families. We can assist you with advice on your letter. If you would like us to create your letter, we can assist you with that as well.

Creating your Adoption Profile Book - Your profile book is of very great importance. Typically, an expectant mother will be forming her initial impression of you from your profile book. You will, therefore, want to present yourselves well. While the creation of a profile book does take effort, the time, care, and concern that you invest in the preparation of the profile book will come across to the expectant parent. Expectant parents have informed us that profile books that are concise, well thought out and organized convey to them the sincerest and deep desire of a couple who wishes to adopt. If you would like us to create your profile book and/or a website we can assist you with that.

Letters of Recommendation - Have the people writing the letter of recommendation mention their relationship with you (relative, co-worker, best friend, your children). Also, how long they have known you and how they know you. Ask for about 5 to 10 letters, you can then pick the best letters to put in your profile book.

Start your Home Study - Depending on your state and county of residence, we can refer you to a home study provider. Please check with your adoption agency, they will most likely do it themselves or have someone they choose.

Step 4 - Congratulations, you are on the right track to be Pregnant on Paper!

The adoptive family should maintain their normal routine as well as continue to educate and prepare themselves for their adoption journey.



Creating Your Profile Books

Creating your profile books is going to be one of the most challenging projects you will have during your adoption journey! The books are the first impression the expectant family has of you. You will want to show the expectant family who you truly are.

We can help guide you on the correct path to create them yourselves or we can create it for you.

It is particularly important when you are creating the profile books that you keep out any identifying information such as your last name, name of your employer, city you live in and so forth. We do not want expectant families to be able to find you online and try to contact you directly. Your adoption agency is there to protect and shelter you from unwanted calls and/or pressure to help them financially.

You will be asked to submit 5 to 10 profile books to your agency once you complete them. Making a pdf version is very helpful as well. Most profile books are no larger than 9x12 and are softbound.

The profile books should focus on you and your significant other more than your children, if you have any. Expectant families like to see a lot of pictures, try to have more candid and recent photos rather than a lot of professional photos.

Usually, a expectant parent letter is placed in the front of the profile book, there are times when families are more creative and are able to make their profile book read more like an actual book. This is your book, make it how you want it to stand out! We recommend that you include a statement at the end of your letter and the book that if they would like to get to know you better, they can call your adoption agency directly. If you have a website or Facebook page that you would like to share with them this would be a good opportunity to do so.

Adding a few letters of reference from family or friends with their picture towards then end of your book helps the expectant families get to know you a little better.

Please remember we are here to help; you can email us your dear birth parent letter and profile book for us to look over for you.



Having a hard time with your Profile Book?

Here are some things for you to consider adding to your Profile Book.

- Briefly mention why you are considering adoption
- Describe your home, neighborhood, and pets
- Share your hobbies & interests
- Educational background or goals
- Talk about your family, extended family, and support system
- Stay positive and sincere

Letters of Recommendation Ideas

- Ask for several letters from family & friends, this will allow you to choose the best ones to place in the book
- · Make sure any identifying information on either party is not included
- Photos included with the letters are appreciated

Some famílies choose to make original scrapbooks others do photo books, it is up to you and what your agency suggests.

We can create your profile books for you, please call us to get a quote.



Private Independent Domestic Adoptions

A List of Possible Estimated Fees to Expect

Adoption Agency

\$20,000 to \$40,000

Your agency or attorney services usually include but not limited to matching process between you and a expectant family, advertising, expectant mother outreach and coordination.

Adoption Attorney

\$5,000 to \$10,000

An adoption attorney is able to facilitate expectant mother outreach and matching. They also offer legal services to finalize the adoption.

Agency Home Study Fee

\$1,500.00 to \$5,000.00

A Home Study will need to be done in your state by a clinical licensed social worker.

• Agency Post Placement Home Study Fee

\$1,500.00 to \$2,500.00

A social worker will meet with you up to 3 times after the baby is placed in your home, they will issue a report to be submitted to the courts to request an adoption finalization hearing.

Adoption Service Provider

\$750.00 to \$2,000.00

A social worker or notary to assist in relinquishment of expectant family's rights depending on state.

• Interstate Compact Fee

\$250.00 to \$500.00

To get permission from birth state of the child to bring the child home to the adoptive family's home state.

Expectant Parent Counseling Fees

Up to \$500.00

Your agency will do their best to help counsel the expectant parents or refer them to many of the free resources available to them.

• Expectant Parent Coordination

Up to \$3,000.00

If an expectant parent needs a lot of assistance/coordination from your agency such as taking her to all her doctor appointments a fee may be charged.



Loans, Grants, Tax Credits and Other Benefits

Financing

There are lenders with financing programs to help clients manage adoption related expenses and provide them with the peace of mind. Easy, affordable financing is available.

Signature loans that may cover 100% of your adoption costs:

LightStream.com

https://www.lightstream.com/adoption-financing

Americas Christian CU.com https://www.americaschristiancu.com/personal/personal-loans/adoption-

loans.html

Best Egg

https://www.bestegg.com/personal-loans/baby-and-adoption-loan

Citizens Bank

https://www.citizensbank.com/personal-loans/overview.aspx

Adoption Lender

https://www.adoptionlender.com

ABBA Fund

http://www.abbafund.org

www.AffordingAdoption.com

www.NEFE.org

www.AdoptionFinancingInformation.com

www.AdoptionFinacing.org

www.AdoptionSubsidy.org

www.NACAC.org

Please note: J& J Adoptions is NOT a lender, nor do we represent you in regard to any loan. You will need to contact the lenders directly.

Federal Adoption Benefits The Adoption Tax Credit is approximately \$13,000.00 per child. Please consult with your tax professional for more details. www.nacac.org/taxcredit/taxcredit20122013.html



Military Adoption Benefit Eligible Soldiers serving on active duty may be reimbursed a maximum of \$2,000 per child for qualifying expenses related to the adoption of children under the age of 18, up to a maximum of \$5,000 per calendar year for multiple adoptions. myarmybenefits.us.army.mil

State Tax Credit In addition to the federal tax credits, some states may offer state level tax assistance.

Employer Assistance Hundreds of employers of every size and industry offer adoption benefits for employees. Employees may be eligible for paid leave and reimbursement. Be sure to check with your human resources department to see what your employer offers.

National Adoption Foundation (NAF) NAF offers aid to families for expenses associated with their adoption of children through direct grants that range from \$500 - \$2,500. NAF also offers adoption disruption insurance designed to protect Adoptive Parents in the event the Expectant Mothers changes her mind and decides not to place the child for adoption.

Gift of Adoption Fund (GOAF) GOAF is a national charitable organization. Any US citizen adopting from anywhere in the world that has an approved home study from a licensed agency or social worker is eligible to apply for a grant. Financial need and personal commitment toward financing a significant portion of the adoption cost must be demonstrated. Grants range from \$1,000 - \$7,500.

HelpUsAdopt.org HelpUsAdopt.org is a national non-profit 501(c)(3) financial assistance grant program. To apply, you must be a US citizen residing in the US and you must have a complete certified home study that has been approved by a qualified agency or licensed professional in the state in which you reside. You must also demonstrate that you are facing significant financial obstacles and need financial assistance with your adoption expenses. Grants range from \$500 - \$15,000 depending on individual situations.

FundYourAdoption. TV Has many ways to help you finance your adoption.

Home Parties Several home party companies will allow you to do a fundraiser for your adoption.

Some examples are

Pampered Chef

Tupperware

31 Bags

Partylite

LuLaRoe

Crab Feeds or Spaghetti Feeds or local restaurants that will help you with a fundraiser. Usually, Pizza places too! 6909 Tam O'Shanter Dr. #B, Stockton, CA 95210

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Adoption Quotes & Sayings

- "God knew that it doesn't matter how your children get to your family. It just matters that they get there." Kira Mortenson
- "However, motherhood comes to you, it's a miracle" Valerie Harper
- Every adoption story is beautiful, but ours is my favorite.
- The adoption took time, the love arrived instantly.
- May you always know my little one, you were wished for, longed for, prayed for, and wanted.
- He is mine in a way that he will never be hers, he is hers in a way that he never be mine and together we are motherhood.
- However, motherhood comes to you, it is a miracle.
- The day you are handed another mother's child is the day your heart breaks and heals at the exact same time.
- You may not have my eyes or my smile, but from the moment we met, you had
 my heart.