Adoption Services

• Home Study
• Post-Placement Services
• Basic Costs

The FAMILY SERVICES Advantage

• Free monthly Support Group for adoptive and prospective adoptive families
• Availability of Family Services counseling staff, with knowledge of adoption, attachment and trauma issues, for families needing extra assistance after placement of a child
• Annual full-day training offered at no cost to Family Services families.
• Highly experienced staff committed to preparing you for the adoption of a child and supporting you throughout the process
• Fully licensed by the state of North Carolina
• Hague Accredited by the Council on Accreditation

Our goal is simple: help children find “forever families” and provide lifelong support to all who are touched by adoption.

Family Services is fully licensed by the State of North Carolina and is Hague Accredited by the Council on Accreditation, which assures that our agency meets the highest professional standards in adoption services. Founded in 1905, Family Services was first licensed to provide adoption services in 1944.

Family Services is a preferred home study provider for many adoption placing agencies around the United States. With home study workers located throughout the state, we can provide home study services (also known as pre-placement assessments) to North Carolina families planning either a domestic or an international adoption. This affords our families the opportunity to work with caring, experienced adoption professionals in their geographical area.

Our adoption staff is highly experienced in both domestic and international adoptions. We also provide stepparent and relative adoption services as well as education about open adoption. Our caring and supportive staff help each of our client families feel confident at every stage of their adoption.
WHAT IS A HOME STUDY?

An adoption Home Study, known as a Pre-Placement Assessment in North Carolina, is both an adoption preparation process and a document that summarizes your family’s life. The Home Study is based on information that you send to the agency and provide during meetings with your experienced adoption worker. The Home Study highlights your family background and relationships, your education and work experiences, your marriage, interactions with children, your home and community, and your preparation for adoption. The Home Study is a collaborative and educational process during which discussions about the important issues facing adoptive families can be explored.

The Home Study typically takes about three months to complete, although the time frame largely depends on the speed with which families are able to submit their required documents. Some of the types of documents needed for a Home Study are:

- Vital Records certificates
- Financial Forms
- Background Clearances
  (we will help you with those)
- Medical Reports
- Autobiographies
- References

POST-PLACEMENT SERVICES

After a child is placed with a family, follow-up visits with their adoption worker will be arranged. The number and frequency of visits are determined by requirements of the state, placing agency, and country (in the case of an international adoption). These visits assess the adjustment of both the adoptive parents and the child.

Our adoption staff provides families with the support, guidance, and resources they need to feel confident throughout the post-placement process. Staff can also assist with referrals to various community resources throughout North Carolina. Reports of the visits are provided to the agency who handled the placement of the child. Family Services will collaborate closely with the placing agency, keeping the family’s best interests a priority. We are also able to assist families with the finalization/refinalization of their adoption in North Carolina, including the required post-placement reports that will be used as the basis for the North Carolina Report to the Court on Proposed Adoption.

BASIC COSTS

Home Study Services Application $150
Home Study (Fees for repeat home studies are typically reduced) $1850
Hague/International Adoption Compliance Fee $200
Home Study Update (for expiring Home Study done by Family Services) $575
Home Study Update (for expiring Home Study done by another agency) $675
Home Study Amendment (modifications to Family Services’ Home Study) $175-375
Post Placement Visits/Reports $300 per visit/report
North Carolina Report to Court $250 per child
Mileage – for worker mileage beyond 30 miles round trip Federal Rate

Please note that every effort will be made to minimize mileage expenses.