

A Family For Every Child Matching Assistance



"We should not be asking who this child belongs to,
but who belongs to this child."

Adoptive Families: Cost & Timing of Adoption

Every year, *Adoptive Families* magazine conducts a survey of families going through the adoption process (foster, private, international) to gather data on the costs of adoption and how long it takes. Below are their results for 2012 costs and timing of foster care adoptions.



Costs of Adoption

Average U.S. Foster Care Adoption Costs:

Home Study
Fee - \$396

Document Prep and
Authentication - \$0

Agency Application & Program
Fees - \$0



Adopting From Foster Care?

If you have adopted from foster care or are in the process of going through the adoption journey, please feel free to share your experiences (both good and bad) with us! Email nora.sharp@afamilyforeverchild.org

Just Getting Started?

Knowing where and how to get started on the adoption process can be overwhelming. First, take a look at your state's social services page

Legal Fees - \$1,075
Advertising/Networking - \$0
Birth Family Counseling - \$0
Birthmother Expenses - \$0
Foster Care - \$0
Travel Expenses - \$378
All Other Expenses - \$762
Total: \$2,612

You can read the full adoption costs report [here](#).

Timing of Adoption

Average time from foster certification to placement of child ultimately adopted:

Less than 1 month - 20%

2 to 3 months - 18%

4 to 6 months - 16%

7 to 12 months - 20%

More than 12 months - 27%

Time from placement to finalization:

Less than 6 months - 18%

7 to 2 months - 29%

13 to 18 months - 13%

19 to 24 months - 18%

Longer than 2 years - 22%

to find out what are the training requirements for your state. Next, you will need to find any agency that will facilitate foster care adoptions. Child Welfare Information Gateway's has an agency locator tool that can help you find agencies (both public and private) in your area that will work with you on your adoption journey. You can use their [National Foster Care & Adoption Directory Search](#) to get started.

Connect with Us!



You can read the full report and family's comments on their adoption experiences [here](#).