

# Lifetree Adoption Agency

A Licensed Child-Placing Agency

5220 Spring Valley Road, Suite 550

Dallas, Texas 75254

(972) 491-3333

Email [Robin@LifetreeAdoption.com](mailto:Robin@LifetreeAdoption.com)

[www.LifetreeAdoption.com](http://www.LifetreeAdoption.com)



## ADOPTION FEE AND PAYMENT

### 1. APPLICATION FEE

**In-State Adoptive Families:** The adoption process begins when the application is completed and returned to LIFETREE along with payment in the amount of \$2,500. This fee is non-refundable and is separate from and in addition to LIFETREE's Placement Fee.

The Application Fee for In-State Adoptive Families covers:

- ⊗ the performance and development of the Adoptive Home Screening Report (typically referred to as "Home Study") by LIFETREE,
- ⊗ processing the application,
- ⊗ central registry background check and criminal history check of all persons living in the home of the Adoptive Family who are 14 years of age or older (however you will be responsible for the fees associated with your FBI fingerprint background checks), and
- ⊗ LIFETREE's general and administrative services.

If the Adoptive Family currently has an updated home study meeting Texas standards and no Addendum is needed, the application fee will be discounted \$500.

**Out-of-State Adoptive Families:** The adoption process begins when the application is completed and returned to LIFETREE along with payment in the amount of \$2,500 and a current adoptive home screening report (typically referred to as "home study") meeting Texas standards. This fee is non-refundable and is separate from and in addition to the Placement Fee.

The Application Fee for Out-Of-State Adoptive Families covers:

- ⊗ LIFETREE's review of the pre-adoptive home screening report,
- ⊗ processing the application,
- ⊗ review of criminal history central registry background checks,
- ⊗ FBI fingerprints card check of persons living in the home of the Adoptive Family who are 14 years of age or older, and LIFETREE's general, and
- ⊗ LIFETREE's general and administrative services.

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## 2. PLACEMENT FEE

This Placement Fee is LIFETREE'S "all inclusive fee" meaning no other monies associated with the placement of the child will be requested or expected to be received from the Adoptive Family for any reason as long as an eventual placement occurs through LIFETREE. The Placement Fee is not due until you agree to the match with the Birth Parents/Child and upon signing LIFETREE's Adoption Contract.

PLACEMENT FEE	
IN-STATE ADOPTIVE FAMILY (\$)	OUT-OF-STATE ADOPTIVE FAMILY (\$)
47,000	48,000 <sup>a</sup>
<sup>a</sup> For an Adoptive Family located out of state, \$1,000 is added to the total cost of the Placement Fee for Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) issues.	

**THIS AMOUNT IS NEVER JEOPARDIZED AS LONG AS AN EVENTUAL PLACEMENT OCCURS AND THROUGH LIFETREE.**

The Placement Fee covers LIFETREE's general and administrative expenses for the adoptive placement; advertising; counseling services; in-state pre-adoptive home screening update as long as LIFETREE prepared the original pre-adoptive home screening report; in-state post-adoptive screening; ongoing contact with Birth and Adoptive Family members; prescriptions/medications for the Birthmother that are not covered by private insurance or Medicaid; psychologist or psychotherapist (if needed); medical and hospital expenses associated with the birth of the child that are not covered by private insurance or Medicaid; "interim" alternative care (if necessary); the execution and completion of Interstate Compact for out-of-state birth parents; all LIFETREE staff expenses associated with Birthmothers who reside 100 miles away from LIFETREE's office (i.e., travel expenses, hotels, and daily per diem based on a \$40 per day rate); financial assistance to Birthmothers as allowed by licensing and as needed for rent/mortgage, utilities, groceries, personal hygiene needs, transportation to/from counseling and doctor/medical appointments, maternity/post-natal clothes; all court filing fees and attorney fees for the termination of the Birth Parents parental rights; and all efforts made in terminating the birthfather's parental rights (i.e., Relinquishment or Waiver of Parental Rights)

Note: The Placement Fee does not cover the cost of circumcision of the child since this is considered an elective procedure and not part of the adoption. If the Adoptive Family desires for the child to be circumcised, it will be the responsibility of the Adoptive Family to cover the fees associated with the procedure. The fees include, but not limited to, physician, hospital, laboratory, and medication(s) that may be needed for the procedure.

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If the Birthmother breaches LIFETREE's contract and chooses to parent the Child or should the Child pass away at or near birth, you are not responsible for any additional future expenses paid on that match. If the Child's racial background has been misrepresented by the Birthmother or for any reason you are not willing to accept the Child, you are not obligated to accept that particular placement. None of the Placement Fee paid to LIFETREE would be lost under these circumstances at the point of which you choose not to accept the placement. Should you accept the child and later return the child for any reason or should the child be removed from your home for abuse reasons, the monies paid to LIFETREE will be forfeited.

### 3. ADOPTION FINALIZATION FEE

Finalization of the adoption is the responsibility of the Adoptive Family. The Adoptive Family may elect to finalize the adoption through LIFETREE's recommended attorney, and that fee is approximately \$2000. Or the Adoptive Family may elect to finalize the adoption with an attorney of choice. Out-of-state Adoptive Families may return to Texas in six months for the finalization of the adoption or they may choose to finalize the adoption in their own state with an attorney of choice.