

Belize Adoption Expenses by Chronology

The cost of your Belize adoption will consist of both CCAI Program Fees and expenses paid to outside agencies for their services. One of the many benefits of CCAI's Belize Adoption Program is that the costs are clearly defined from the moment you begin your adoption journey. The adoption fees and costs are spread out over the course of the entire adoption process. Expenses paid to CCAI throughout the adoption (highlighted in **BOLD** below) will be about one-fourth of the overall adoption expenses. Below we have listed each expense necessary to complete your adoption, to whom it is paid, and when it is due.

| Key | Expense | Amount | Pay to | Due |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| * | Application Fee | \$250 – Personal Check/ACH Withdrawal | CCAI | App Submission |
| 1 | IAAME Monitoring & Oversight Fee | \$850 per child – Check/ACH Withdrawal | CCAI (forwarded to IAAME) | After App Approval |
| * | 1st Program Fee | \$4,350 – Check/ACH Withdrawal | CCAI | After App Approval |
| 2 | 1st In-Country Fee | \$2,030 (wiring fee included) – Check/ACH Withdrawal | CCAI (wire to Belize) | After App Approval |
| 3 | Home Study Fee | As agreed with local home study agency | Your home study agency | As agreed with your home study agency |
| 4 | USCIS Filing & Fingerprinting | \$775 plus \$85 per adult in the home – Check/Money Order | US Department of Homeland Security | When home study is completed |
| 5 | Dossier Preparation | Approx. \$250 – Check/Money Order | Secretary of State(s) | As preparing Dossier |
| * | 2nd Program Fee | \$2,950 – Check/ACH Withdrawal | CCAI | Submission of Dossier |
| * | 3rd Program Fee | \$2,300 – Check/ACH Withdrawal | CCAI | Prior to filing I-800 |
| * | Post Placement Deposit | \$1,000 - Check | CCAI | Prior to filing I-800 |
| 6 | 2nd In-Country Fee | \$2,030 (wiring fee included) – Check/ ACH Withdrawal | CCAI (wire to Belize) | When Provisional Adoption Order is granted |
| 7 | US Domestic & International Airfare | \$500 - \$800 by coach per adult plus child's one way ticket – Credit Card | A travel agency or airline of your choice | Approximately 4 weeks prior to departure |
| 8 | Room & Board (approx. 2 week stay) | Approx. \$1,500 - \$3,500 (\$100-\$250 per night accommodations) plus food \$100 - \$150/day) – Cash, Credit Card | Hotel(s), Restaurant(s) | In Belize |
| 9 | U.S. Embassy Medical Exam | \$155 – Cash, Credit Card | Clinic | In Belize City, Belize |
| 10 | Child U.S. Entry Visa | \$325 – Cash, Credit Card | US Embassy in Belmopan | In Belmopan, Belize |

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|---|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 11 | Court Finalization Fee | Varies by state/county | Local County Court | After U.S. return |
| 12 | State Birth Certificate | Varies by state | Your State | After U.S. return |
| TOTAL ESTIMATE: \$20,900 – \$24,200 for a couple adopting one child (Not including home study cost, post placement cost, or post placement deposit) | | | | |

Adoption timelines are variable. Due to unpredictable wait times, you may need to re-file your immigration application, which includes a new I-800A form or Supplement 3, re-fingerprinting, and a home study update, along with translation/processing service fees to submit to DHS. The overall cost for each re-filing can be an additional \$800 - \$2,500.

Home study and post placement fees can vary greatly; a home study is generally between \$1000 - \$3000 and post placement fees are generally between \$150 - \$500 per report. Please visit our website for specific examples of home study and post placement fees for your state.

The “Total” above does not include the refundable \$1,000 Post Placement deposit.

Explanation of Non-CCAI Adoption Expenses

1. IAAME (Intercountry Adoption Accreditation and Maintenance Entity) is the authorized Hague accrediting entity. They charge **\$850** per approved application where CCAI agrees to serve as the primary provider. (This fee is charged on a per child basis, if a family is adopting more than one child, IAAME will collect an additional **\$850** per child at the time of referral.)
2. CCAI’s legal representative in Belize (a Foreign Supervised Provider under Hague) charges half of its fees at the time of taking on a new client for adoption services. Including the cost of wiring, this fee is **\$2,030**.
3. Home study costs vary greatly between states and agencies within the same state. We encourage families to be “educated consumers” when securing a licensed/non-profit home study agency.
4. The USCIS (United States Citizenship and Immigration Services) charges **\$775** at the time that you file the I-800A. Each person 17 years old or older in the household must be fingerprinted. **\$85** for each person to be fingerprinted should be included in the initial USCIS check or money order. The USCIS approval is valid for 15 months.
5. The cost of dossier preparation varies depending on what your state(s) charges for issuing birth and marriage certificates and for document authentication. The cost of documentation notarization may also vary depending on the notary. The **\$250** estimate reflects the average that families will spend compiling the adoption dossier.
6. CCAI’s legal representative in Belize (a Foreign Supervised Provider under Hague) charges the second half of its fees at the time the provisional adoption order is issued. Including the cost of wiring, this fee is **\$2,030**.
7. Airfare to/from Belize may range from **\$500 - \$800** per adult traveler for coach accommodations based on flights from/to your home airport during regular season travel. For your adopted child, a “full one way ticket” (generally 75% of the price of adult ticket) is required (and can be as much as **\$600**).
8. Average in-Belize travel expenses are approximately **\$1,500 - \$3,500** for two adults and the adopted child for an approximate 2-week stay. This covers accommodations, food, and local (Belizean) travel (ground transportation).
9. Your child’s US Embassy-approved medical exam, TB test, and vaccinations will cost **\$155**.
9. Your child’s visa to enter the US is **\$325** and will be paid to the US Embassy in Belmopan.
10. The adoption will need to be finalized after you return home. The cost will vary by county.

11. Your child will need a state-issued birth certificate. The cost will vary by state.

Financial Aid Application(s) & Administrative Assistance

CCAI is happy to support your family if you choose to seek financial aid through grant(s) to fund your adoption. Once you have researched and selected a grant organization(s) that you would like to apply to, CCAI will provide assistance in compiling requested agency documentation for as many grants as you choose to apply for throughout your adoption process. CCAI will provide the following services to you at no additional fee: 1) initially analyzing and verifying your adoption case position and stage in the adoption process; 2) verifying your paid adoption expenses and estimating the overall cost for your current adoption; 3) writing and delivering (including postage) your case-specific adoption expense information to the fund(s) or foundation(s) you applied to; 4) generating a home study summary (if applicable); 5) ongoing communication with grant provider(s) regarding your adoption progress and paid and estimated expenses; 6) tracking and applying your grant funds to the specific adoption fees and travel related expenses; and 7) accounting reconciliation and coordination with the fund(s) or foundation(s) to determine how best to disburse excess funds if necessary. These services will be provided for all the grants that you receive throughout your adoption process.

NOTE: Financial contributions from your relatives, friends, churches or other related parties toward your adoption is not tax deductible according to the IRS rules.