

# CCAI Belize Adoption Program Fees

## For Families in Florida, Georgia, Texas, & Wyoming

CCAI is proud to be a 501(c)(3) non-profit, charitable adoption agency. That means we are financially accountable to you as the American public and as an adoptive family. Disclosing all costs up front and having no hidden charges is important to us. While providing uncompromised first-class adoption service, CCAI's fees are among the lowest in the field of adoption from Belize.

Once your application is approved, you will sign a Fee Policy/Agreement (see "Sample Fee Policy Agreement") with CCAI which commits you to pay: 1) CCAI fees and 2) expenses paid to other entities necessary to complete your adoption (see "Adoption Expenses by Chronology"). **The Fee Policy/Agreement also commits CCAI to not change the amount of our agency fees throughout your adoption.**

Families make CCAI fee payments at three different times and only when they are ready to be provided with the services covered by that fee. Following is a breakdown of the services covered by each of CCAI's fees.

### FEES PAID TO CCAI

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| <b>Application Fee - Due When You Submit Your Application</b>                      | <b>\$ 250</b>   |
| <b>First Program Fee - Due After Application Approval</b>                          |                 |
| Adoption Orientation & Consultation  |                 |
| Child Abuse/Background Check   |                 |
| Adoption Assessment/Home Study   |                 |
| Dossier Assistance/Review  |                 |
| USCIS (I-800A) Filing  |                 |
| Domestic Communication   |                 |
| Hague-Required Adoption & Parent Training  |                 |
| Child-Specific Training Consultation & Clinical Support                            |                 |
| Accrediting Entity Monitoring & Oversight Coordination                             |                 |
| Administration   |                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>\$5,850</b>  |
| <b>Second Program Fee - Due When You Submit Your Dossier</b>                       |                 |
| Child Match Preparation & Coordination   |                 |
| Belize Adoption Travel Training  |                 |
| USCIS (I-800) and Article 5 Hague Processing                                       |                 |
| International Communication  |                 |
| Accrediting Entity Monitoring & Oversight Coordination                             |                 |
| Administration   |                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>\$2,950</b>  |
| <b>Third Program Fee – Prior to I-800 Submission to USCIS</b>                      |                 |
| Post Placement Report Service/Submission and Post Placement Support & Consultation |                 |
| Post Adoption Support & Consultation   |                 |
| Administration   |                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>\$4,300</b>  |
| <b>CCAI PROGRAM FEE TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$13,350</b> |
| <b>Refundable Post Placement Deposit</b>   | <b>\$500</b>    |

Please see "Explanation of CCAI Belize Program Fees" to better understand how each of these services brings you and your adopted child closer to each other.

# **Explanation of CCAI Belize Adoption Program Fees**

## **For Families in Florida, Georgia, Texas, & Wyoming**

### **APPLICATION FEE**

#### **Application Review & Assessment**

The well-being of adoptive children is CCAI's ultimate concern and main focus; their needs dictate which applicant(s) we can assist. By reviewing the completed "Application for Belize Adoption," CCAI will determine if families meet the qualifications set by the US, Belize, and this agency as stated on the Qualifications page in this packet. Your Application Fee covers: 1) sending, receiving and printing the application packet; and 2) staff time spent assessing the application and contacting applicants and their references, etc.

### **FIRST PROGRAM FEE**

#### **Adoption Orientation & Consultation**

Orientation is held to prepare adoptive parents in the areas of understanding international adoption procedures, our agency's policies and practices, requirements of the home study, and Belize adoption-related paperwork, etc. A part of your First Program Fee covers the cost of: 1) staff time spent arranging and conducting orientation and training; and 2) supplies, printed materials etc., for applicants' group sessions.

#### **Child Abuse/Background Check**

Any American citizen who desires to adopt internationally must be cleared by the state child abuse registers in any state and/or country in which the applicant has resided since the age of 18. A part of your First Program Fee covers CCAI staff time spent: 1) communicating with related state or county registers for child abuse and sex offender's records; and 2) coordinating with the individual State related Department for approval of the home study report.

#### **Adoption Assessment/Home Study**

No adoption can occur without an approved home study/adoption assessment. A part of your First Program Fee covers the cost of: 1) social worker's time spent conducting individual and family interviews and counseling, visiting the family's residence, writing, typing, and editing the home study reports for your State, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), and Belize; 2) travel expenses associated with the interviewing and visiting process; 3) staff time spent collecting and verifying references and child abuse records; 4) child placement supervisor's time spent supervising the home study process and approving the assessment report; and 5) professional insurance.

#### **Dossier Assistance/Review**

The Central Authority in Belize (DHS) approves you based upon your qualifications as presented in your adoption dossier. Therefore, a complete and high-quality dossier is extremely important. A part of your First Program Fee covers: 1) CCAI staff time organizing and providing Dossier Orientation; 2) assisting you throughout the dossier compilation process; and 3) reviewing the completed dossier for quality control.

#### **USCIS (I-800A) Filing**

American citizens wishing to adopt internationally must also be approved by the USCIS. A part of your First Program Fee covers CCAI staff time spent: 1) guiding Prospective Adoptive Parents (PAPs) in collecting and submitting related USCIS filing fee and documents; and 2) communicating with the USCIS office to assist with USCIS approval.

### **Domestic Communication**

The process of providing international adoption services requires constant communication between CCAI and the adoptive family, relevant US governmental agencies, your social worker performing the home study and home study agency in general. This is done through phone, fax, email/intranet/internet, newsletters, and regular/standard mail. A part of your First Program Fee covers the cost of providing these vital services.

### **Hague-Required Adoption & Parent Training**

The Intercountry Adoption Act, as well as many states, requires adoptive parents to receive training on parenting children with special needs, attachment, cross-culture, and international adoption before traveling to Belize. CCAI provides that training to adoptive families through helpful online classes. Experts, panels of adoptive parents, and/or adult adoptees conduct the classes. A part of your First Program Fee covers: 1) CCAI staff time spent preparing the required training sessions; 2) editing and printing training materials that fulfill State requirements; 3) online courses management, and 3) wages paid to guest speakers and training experts.

### **Child-Specific Training Consultation & Clinical Support**

CCAI adoption clinical staff will provide child-specific training and consultation with PAPs as well as additional insight, answers to questions, and further resources to support or expand the parent training and preparation process before an adoption is completed. A part of your First Program fee will cover our staff's consultation and support throughout your adoption process.

### **Accrediting Entity Monitoring & Oversight Coordination**

All agencies serving families to adopt internationally must be accredited according to the regulations and standards set forth by the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption. The US Accrediting Entity and the US Department of State require a substantial amount of communication and data reporting as part of their monitoring and oversight requirements. A part of your First Program Fee covers CCAI staff time spent: 1) Communicating and coordinating with the Accrediting Entity as required under the Hague Convention; and 2) Compiling and reporting required data and information to the Accrediting Entity.

### **Administration**

As a non-profit charitable 501(c)(3) agency, CCAI is permitted to spend up to 25% of our program fees on administrative needs. However, we are able to keep our administrative costs at less than 20% of our overall agency expenses. A part of your Program Fee partially covers necessary administrative expenses such as office building expenses, office equipment and insurance, bank fees, office supplies, printing materials, public relations, accounting, IT and office management, maintaining and managing adoption files, and other routine operational activities.

## **SECOND PROGRAM FEE**

### **Child Match Preparation & Coordination**

CCAI makes every effort to help our families prepare for their child match and to stay connected with families as a source of support before and after receiving their child referral. A part of your Second Program Fee covers CCAI staff time on 1) sharing available adoptive child's information with your family; 2) answering questions and supporting families during the wait; 3) coordinating with our In-Country Representative and DHS regarding the status of child referrals; 4) updating DHS regarding family status change(s); and 5) communicating regarding the child's situation, including updated information if possible.

### **Belize Adoption Travel Training**

Traveling to Belize to meet your child is a major part of the Belize adoption process. Adequate preparation is crucial for a successful adoption trip. A part of your Second Program Fee covers: 1) Belize adoption travel training packet; 2) a Belize adoption travel orientation following child referral; and 3) training on paperwork for DHS and for the USCIS/US Embassy in Belmopan.

### **USCIS (I-800) and Article 5 Hague Processing**

Assisting families to maintain valid USCIS approval and meet Hague requirements at all times demands constant effort. A part of your Second Program Fee covers the cost of CCAI staff time spent: 1) monitoring waiting families' USCIS approval status; 2) assisting waiting families with USCIS re-filing and/or new filing of I-800A; 3) guiding PAPs in collecting and submitting related USCIS I-800 filing documents; 4) communicating with the USCIS office to assist with USCIS I-800 approval; 5) coordinating with USCIS, National Visa Center, and the US Embassy in Belmopan for Article 5, informing DHS that the U.S. Central Authority agrees that the adoption may proceed, and 6) sending the PAP signed acceptance letter and the Article 5 to DHS and requesting of permission to travel.

### **International Communication**

A successful Belizean adoption requires international communication on multiple levels and in large quantity. A part of your Second Program Fee covers the ongoing communication regarding your family's dossier, and adoption travel invitation as well as communication with DHS, CCAI in-country representative, the US Embassy, and USCIS through phone, fax, email/intranet/internet, and international express mail.

### **Accrediting Entity Monitoring & Oversight Coordination**

All agencies serving families to adopt internationally must be accredited according to the regulations and standards set forth by the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption. The US Accrediting Entity and the US Department of State require a substantial amount of communication and data reporting as part of their monitoring and oversight requirements. A part of your Second Program Fee covers CCAI staff time spent: 1) Communicating and coordinating with the Accrediting Entity as required under the Hague Convention; and 2) Compiling and reporting required data and information to the Accrediting Entity.

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## **THIRD PROGRAM FEE**

### **Post Placement Report Service/Submission; Post Placement Support & Consultation**

After you return to the United States, CCAI will maintain regular contact with you and your child as required by your Belizean provincial adoption order for the purpose of supporting the development of the parent-child relationship, resolving problems, and evaluating the placement. A part of your Third Program Fee covers the costs of CCAI staff time spent: 1) Reminding you and your social worker of post placement report due dates and related requirements, such as number of pictures, child's physical exam or school report, etc. for such reports; 2) Calling and visiting you four times and writing progress reports, including travel expenses related to post placement home visits and interviews; 3) Collecting and reviewing post placement reports; 4) Contacting you and/or your social worker regarding any concerns and/or additional requested documents/pictures after reviewing post placement reports; 5) Sending the reports to Belize; and 6) Contacting you should the Belizean Central Authority ask any questions and/or request additional information after their review of the post placement reports.

### **Post Adoption Support & Consultation**

Once your Belizean adoption is finalized through the High Court, CCAI will continue to be available to you to assist with post adoption requirements. A part of your Third Program Fee covers the costs of CCAI staff time spent: 1) Assisting you with adoption court validation, state birth certificate, and applying for the adopted child's social security number; 2) Participating at court for adoption validation, if necessary; 3) Providing additional training, counseling, support, and referral services on parenting, bonding, attachment, child development, etc. if needed; and 4) professional insurance.

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## **REFUNDABLE POST PLACEMENT DEPOSIT**

Compliance with all post placement/post adoption requirements is an important part of the adoption process, as well as in the best interests of the child and family. You must finalize your adoption in your county court, and you must also secure US citizenship for your child. CCAI ensures these requirements are met through the use of deposits.

The **\$500** refundable Post Placement Deposit is due prior to the submission of your I-800 to USCIS and is refunded when all post placement requirements are satisfactorily completed and CCAI receives all adoption finalization documentation, including a copy of the child's Certificate of Citizenship.