# CCAI Dominican Republic Adoption Program Fees For Families in FL, GA, TX, & WY

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 the Dominican Republic.

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

## Application Fee - Due When You Submit Your Application

\$ 300

# First Program Fee - Due After Application Approval

Adoption Orientation & Consultation

Adoption Assessment/Home Study

Background Check

**USCIS Support & Monitoring** 

Dossier Assistance/Review

Domestic Communication

Hague-Required Adoption & Parent Training

Child-Specific Training Consultation & Clinical Support

Accrediting Entity Monitoring & Oversight Coordination

Administration

TOTAL \$7,300

### Second Program Fee - Due When You Submit Your Dossier

Child Match Preparation & Coordination

Dominican Republic Adoption Travel Training

USCIS (I-800) and Article 5 Hague Processing

International Communication

Post Adoption Report Service/Submission

Post Adoption Consultation & Clinical Support

Accrediting Entity Monitoring & Oversight Coordination

Administration

TOTAL \$8,610

### **CCAI PROGRAM FEE TOTAL**

\$16,210

#### Refundable Post Adoption Deposit

\$1,000

CCAI's fees increase by \$1,400 per *additional* child referred, for the services of Child-Specific Training, I-800A Filing, and Post Adoption Reporting Service. Please see "Explanation of CCAI Dominican Republic Program Fees" to better understand how each of these services brings you and your adopted child closer to each other.

Rev. 1/2024 FL/GA/TX/WY

# Explanation of CCAI Dominican Republic Adoption Program Fees For Families in FL, GA, TX, & WY

## **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 Dominican Republic Adoption," CCAI will determine if families meet the qualifications set by the US, the Dominican Republic, 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

Upon receipt of your signed Service Agreement, Fee Policy/Agreement, First Program Fee, and Accrediting Entity (IAAME) Fee, you'll receive CCAI's copyrighted <u>Adoption Dossier Guide</u>. You will also be provided with a "Home Study Packet," outlining the CCCWA and USCIS requirements for your home study, to give to the local licensed, non-profit, accredited home study agency that you indicated on your application. A part of your First Program Fee covers the cost of: 1) preparing materials and packets; and 2) staff time spent conducting orientation and training through packets and consultations.

## 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 the Dominican Republic; 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.

### 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.

## **USCIS Support & Monitoring**

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.

## Dossier Assistance/Review

The Central Authority in the Dominican Republic, Consejo Nacional para la Niñez y la Adolescencia (CONANI), 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.

### **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 the Dominican Republic. 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. 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 CONANI regarding the status of child referrals; 4) updating CONANI regarding family status change(s); and 5) communicating regarding the child's situation, including updated information if possible.

# **Dominican Republic Adoption Travel Training**

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

# 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 Santo Domingo for Article 5, informing CONANI 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 CONANI and requesting of permission to travel.

### **International Communication**

A successful Dominican 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 CONANI, CCAI in-country representative, the US Embassy, and USCIS through phone, fax, email/intranet/internet, and international express mail.

## Post Adoption Report Service/Submission, Post Adoption Support & Consultation

After you return to the United States, CCAI will maintain regular contact with you and your children for the purpose of supporting the development of the parent-child relationship, resolving problems, and evaluating the placement. A part of your Second Program Fee covers the costs of CCAI staff time spent: 1) Reminding you and your social worker of post adoption report due dates and related requirements, such as number of pictures, for such reports; 2) Calling and visiting you up to six times and writing progress reports, including travel expenses related to post adoption home visits and interviews; 3) Collecting and reviewing post adoption reports; 4) Contacting you and/or your social worker regarding any concerns and/or additional requested documents/pictures after reviewing post adoption reports; 5) Sending the reports to the Dominican Republic; 6) Contacting you should the Dominican Central Authority ask any questions and/or request additional information after their review of the post adoption reports; 7) Assisting you with adoption court validation, State birth

certificate, and applying for the adopted child's social security number; 8) Participating at court for adoption validation, if necessary; 9) Providing additional training, counseling, support, and referral services on parenting, bonding, attachment, child development, etc. if needed; and 10) professional insurance.

# 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.

#### Administration

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.

#### REFUNDABLE POST ADOPTION DEPOSIT

Complying with all post adoption requirements is an important part of the adoption process. CONANI requires post adoption reports on the child's adjustment to his/her new home and family at 6 months, one year, two years, three years, four years, and five years following your child's entry into the US. There are also state and USCIS (United States Citizenship and Immigration Services) requirements regarding the child's US citizenship and other issues related to adoption finalization. It is in the best interest of the child and the family to comply with all post adoption requirements.

The **\$1,000** refundable deposit is due prior to filing of the I-800 with USCIS. After CCAI has received a copy of the child's Dominican Republic adoption decree and birth certificate, child's Certificate of Citizenship, and the timely submission of six post adoption reports, the deposit will be refunded to the family.