

Colombia Adoption Expenses by Chronology For Families in Colorado

The cost of your Colombia 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 Colombia 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. Estimated expenses paid to CCAI throughout the adoption (highlighted in **BOLD** below) will be about one-third of the overall adoption expenses. Below we have listed each estimated expense necessary to complete your adoption, to whom it is paid, and when it is due. Each expense is identified by the Key and detailed in "Explanation of Non-CCAI Expenses." Your estimated adoption fees/expenses are further categorized from **A-I** as follows:

Key	Category	Expense	Amount	Pay To	Due
	B	Application Fee	\$300 – Check/ACH	CCAI	App Submission
1	H	IAAME Monitoring & Oversight Fee*	\$850 – Check/ACH	CCAI (forwarded to IAAME)	After App Approval
	B	1st Program Fee	\$7,800 – Check/ACH	CCAI	After App Approval
	A	<i>Home Study Fee (INCLUDED in 1st Program Fee above)</i>	<i>(\$2,200)</i>	<i>CCAI</i>	<i>After App Approval</i>
2	H	Child Abuse Record Search	\$35/couple – Check	CDHS	After App Approval
3	H	CBI/FBI Fingerprinting	\$39.50/person – Money Order/Credit Card	Colorado Bureau of Investigation	After App Approval
4	H	Colorado State Approval	\$300 - Check	Lutheran Family Services via CCAI	When home study is approved by CCAI
5	E	Psychological Evaluation	Approx. \$250 - \$2,500 – Check/Credit Card	Licensed Psychologist/Psychiatrist	As preparing Dossier
6	H	USCIS Filing & Fingerprinting	\$775 plus \$85 per adult in the home – Check/Money Order	US Department of Homeland Security	When home study is completed
7	E	Dossier Translation Fee	\$1,360 – Check/ACH †	CCAI (wire to Colombia)	When home study & psychological evaluation are completed
8	E	Dossier Preparation	Approx. \$500 – Check/Credit Card	Secretary of State(s)	As preparing Dossier
	B	2nd Program Fee*	\$9,660 – Check/ACH	CCAI	Submission of Dossier to CCAI
	G	<i>Post Adoption Fee (INCLUDED in 2nd Program Fee above)</i>	<i>(\$3,660)</i>	<i>CCAI</i>	<i>Submission of Dossier to CCAI</i>
9	E/C	1 st In-Country Fee*	\$2,260 - \$2,510 – Check/ACH †	CCAI (wire to Colombia)	At time of accepting referral
10	H	Care Package Shipment	Approx. \$100 - \$300	International Mail Carrier (e.g. FedEx)	After accepting referral
	B	Refundable Post Adoption Deposit	\$1,000 – Check/ACH	CCAI	Prior to filing I-800

	B	Refundable Court Validation Deposit	\$200 – Check/ACH	CCAI	Prior to filing I-800
11	E	2 nd In-Country Fee*	\$530 - \$680 – Check/ACH †	CCAI (wire to Colombia)	Prior to filing I-800
12	H	Colombian Visa for Judicial Process	Approx. \$222 per adoptive applicant	Colombia Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Approx. 4 weeks prior to departure
13	C	Authorized Adoption Institution Fee (IAPA), if applicable	\$0 - Approx. \$3,000 – Check/ACH †	ICBF or Authorized Adoption Institution (IAPA) via CCAI	Approx. 2 weeks prior to departure
14	I	US Domestic & International Airfare*	\$800 - \$1,500 by coach per adult plus \$1,000 for a child one way ticket – Credit Card	A travel agency of your choice; in cooperation with Colombian Representative	Approximately 4 weeks prior to departure
15	I	Room & Board* (approx. 5 week stay)	Approx. \$7,000 - \$10,500 (approx. \$100 - \$150/person/day) – Cash, Credit Card	Hotel(s), Restaurant(s)	In Colombia
16	I	Colombia Transportation Costs (for Adoption)	Approx. \$1,042 ¹ (one car) – Cash, Credit Card	CCAI-Arranged Transport Service	In Colombia
17	C	In-Colombia Legal Services Fee	\$2,380 if adopting from La Casa de la Madre y Niño, Approx. \$1,500 if adopting from another Institution or ICBF – Check/ACH †	Attorney(s) working with ICBF or Authorized Adoption Institution (IAPA) via CCAI	In Colombia
18	C	US Embassy Medical Exam and Related Tests/Vaccinations*	\$245 - \$460 ¹ – Cash	US-Approved Panel Physician/Clinic	In Bogotá, Colombia
19	E	Post-Sentencia Documents*	\$187 - \$217 ¹ – Cash	Service Provider in Colombia	In Bogotá, Colombia
20	C	Child U.S. Entry Visa*	\$325 – Cash, Credit Card	US Embassy in Bogotá	In Bogotá, Colombia
21	H	Exit Permit, if applicable	\$12 – Cash, Money Order	Colombian Consulate in US	Colombian Consulate in US
22	H	Court Validation Fee	\$167 – Cash, Credit Card	Local County Court	After U.S. return
23	H	Colorado Birth Certificate*	\$37.75 – Cash, Credit Card	CO Vital Statistics Office	After U.S. return
TOTAL ESTIMATE: \$38,517 – \$50,393 for a couple adopting one child – 5 week in-country stay					

A. Home study	\$2,200	D. Care of the child	\$0	G. Post-adoption reports	\$3,660
B. Adoption expenses in the United States	\$11,900	E. Translation and document expenses	\$3,557 - \$5,987	H. Third party fees	\$2,958 - \$3,170
C. Foreign country program expenses	\$3,792 - \$8,167	F. Contributions	\$0	I. Travel and accommodation expenses	\$10,642 - \$15,542

* Additional IAAME Monitoring & Oversight Fee, In-Country Fees, CCAI Fees, child-specific in-country fees, and travel costs will apply for multiple child placements.

† International wire charge included

¹ Colombia Transportation Costs, US Embassy Medical Exam and Related Tests/Vaccinations, and Post-Sentencia Documents paid at time of submission are in Colombian Pesos (COP), based on current market conversion rates at time of adoption. Estimated costs in the Chronology above are based on exchange rates for January, 2024.

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 the ICBF. The overall cost for each re-filing can be an additional \$800-\$2,500.

Please see Explanation of CCAI Service Fees and Explanation of Non-CCAI Adoption Expenses for details. Also, the “Total” above does not include the refundable **\$1,000** Post Adoption Deposit or the refundable **\$200** Court Validation Deposit.

Explanation of Non-CCAI Adoption Expenses For Families in Colorado

1. The 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. The State of Colorado requires that all adoptive families undergo a Child Abuse Record search at a cost of **\$35** per couple. Families complete and submit the State of Colorado “Background Inquiry Form” to Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) with a check for \$35 payable to “CDHS.”
3. The State of Colorado requires that all adoptive families be fingerprinted for CBI and FBI clearance for the home study. This is required of each person in the home, age 17 or older and the cost is \$39.50 per person.
4. Lutheran Family Services is the CDHS’ contractor who must approve all Colorado home studies prior to submission to USCIS. The fee for this review and approval is **\$300**.
5. Colombia requires each adoptive family to complete a psychological evaluation from a licensed psychologist as part of their dossier. The cost for this evaluation varies greatly depending on provider and ranges from approximately **\$250 - \$2,500** per adoptive family.
6. 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.
7. The Dossier Translation fee of **\$1,360** (wiring fee included) covers the cost of translating your dossier in Colombia.
8. The cost of dossier preparation varies depending on what your state(s) charges for issuing birth and marriage certificates and for document apostille. The cost of documentation notarization may also vary depending on the notary. Each family has approximately 20 apostilled documents in their dossier. The **\$500** estimate reflects the average that families will spend compiling the adoption dossier.
9. The 1st In-Country fee is **\$2,260 - \$2,510** (wiring fee included) and includes costs related to the translation of your child referral information, costs related to receiving and delivering the care package you’ve sent for your child after referral, your In-Colombia Representative Services, and in-country translation/interpretation services (only for children from outside of Bogotá) during your adoption trip.
10. The estimated cost of **\$100 - \$300** covers the shipment of your care package to Colombia, via international mail carrier of your choice.
11. The 2nd In-Country Fee is **\$530 - \$680** (wiring fee included) and covers the cost of the translation of up to 6 required post adoption reports due after you come home with your child as well as the translation of your Sentencia and child’s birth certificate, documents required for court validation of your adoption in the State of Colorado.
12. In order to complete a legal procedure while in Colombia (such as an adoption), a special visa for the judicial process must be obtained by each adoptive applicant. The cost for both the application study and actual visa once approved total approximately **\$222** per adoptive applicant and is paid directly to the Colombian Ministry of Foreign Affairs via the Colombian online visa system before your adoption trip.

13. In Colombia adoptions may be completed by the Central Authority (ICBF) or an Authorized Adoption Institution (IAPA). Each entity charges their own fee for adoption-related services, which range from **\$0 (ICBF) – Approx. \$3,000 (IAPA)** (wiring fee included).
14. Airfare to/from Colombia may range from **\$800 - \$1,500** per adult traveler (2 one-way tickets) for coach accommodations based on flights from/to your home airport during regular season travel. For children over two years old at time of travel, a “full one way ticket” (generally 75% of the price of adult ticket) is required (and can be as much as **\$1,000**).
15. Average in-Colombia travel expenses are approximately **\$7,000 - \$10,500** for two adults and the adopted child for an approximate 5-week stay. This covers local (Colombian) travel (ground transportation), as well as hotel costs. The single adoption trip usually takes 5-8 weeks.
16. Colombia Transportation Costs covering adoption-related procedures/appointments are estimated to be about **\$1,042** in USD after currency conversion. This covers ~\$65 transportation to/from BOG airport, one car for arrival/departure (120,000 COP each trip), ~\$305 two trips to/from La Mesa via car for 4 people for adoption decree processing (600,000 COP per trip), and ~\$672 for 8 days of adoption proceedings, 6 hrs/day (\$14/hr or 55,000/hr).
17. The attorney costs for legal processing of adoption paperwork in Colombia range from approx. **\$1,500 - \$2,380** (wiring fee included) and will be paid directly during your trip.
18. US Embassy Medical Exam and Related Tests/Vaccinations are required for issuance of your child’s US visa and include a TB test and/or chest x-ray, totaling **\$245 - \$460** USD after currency conversion.
19. After the adoption is finalized, there are several documents required to complete the adoption process and bring your child home, costing a total of **\$187 - \$217** USD after currency conversion. This includes obtaining a new birth certificate, Colombian ID, and passport for your adopted child, government filing fee, legalized adoption decree copies from court, photos for the US visa, and if desired, a copy of the child’s medical file in Spanish.
20. Your child’s visa to enter the US is **\$325** and will be paid to the US Embassy in Bogotá.
21. If one parent of an adoptive couple leaves Colombia before the child’s US Visa is issued, leaving the other adoptive parent to return to the US with the adopted child alone, a special Exit Permit is required by Colombian migration authorities. This permit is obtained in person at a Colombian Consulate in the US by the adoptive parent who returned to the US early, costing a total of **\$12**.
22. The adoption will need to be validated after you return to Colorado at a cost of **\$167**.
23. Your child will need a state-issued birth certificate issued by the State of Colorado. The cost is **\$37.75**.

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.