

## A Mother's Choice Adoption Fees

*Fees are subject to change at any time by the NMCCH Board of Directors and changes MAY be retroactively applied to existing clients.*

**A Mother's Choice fees** consist of refundable and non-refundable amounts. The non-refundable portion covers services actually provided by employee time and expense. The refundable portion represents an advance tier payment for the future adoption and placement of the child in their new home.

**Application \$4,500 (\$1,500 non-refundable \$3,000 refundable)**

No application is actively retained without \$4,500 payment in full.

**Clearances \$4,500 (\$1,000 non-refundable \$3,500 refundable)**

Register by paying in advance. Once the application is completed, and the background checks and clearances have been received by the appropriate state and local authorities, and is received along with the accompanying fee, prospective adoptive families are eligible for presentation to birth mothers for selection.

**Orientation \$4,500 (\$1,000 non-refundable \$3,500 refundable)**

Register by paying this next payment. The seminar is an online course. The orientation seminar must be completed prior to the home study since there are questions in the home study process that draw upon the material from the seminar.

**Home Study \$4,500 (\$2,500 non-refundable \$2,000 refundable)**

Register by paying in advance

**Placement \$4,500**

Due when a child is placed, no refunds

**Total Fees - \$22,500 \$6,000 NON-REFUNDABLE** if you withdraw prior to placement. (**\$12,000 REFUNDABLE** if you have paid the **\$18,000** along the process)

**Updates to Clearance Checks** and the **Pre-Placement Home Study** are required annually. Update fees are reduced by 75% of the non-refundable amount.

If the adoption is not an infant adoption (over one year old), then reduced rates may apply as fees are then based on the cost of providing the adoption service.

Refundable fees are available for return to the adoptive couple in the event that no placement is ever made. Potential adoptive couples may withdraw their applications from consideration at any point in the process and notify staff at A Mother's Choice in writing that they wish to have the reimburseable portion of the fees returned. This may be done via email or postal mail. Once refund is made, applicants withdraw from active client status and are no longer eligible for presentation to birth mothers for selection.

As adoptive families advance in the process, they may have an advantage over applicants at a lower tier. This is only a general theory and does not always apply. Birth mothers may always ask to look at any applicants. A Mother's Choice will honor birth parent requests and will show family portfolios to the birth parent(s) as long as the families are in current payment status and have passed their background checks and clearances. Families further in the process, i.e. with a completed home study, may be preferable to some birth parent(s) simply due to the assurance that the home is completely ready at the time. Should a family behind in the payment process be selected by a birth family for potential adoption, staff at A Mother's Choice will strive to complete the needed home study and the family will be encouraged to increase payments rapidly.

Here are some more examples:

1. A birth mother has recently learned she is in her first month of pregnancy. She calls A Mother's Choice for counsel. Together, with A Mother's Choice she explores her options. She may at any time upon request be allowed to view profiles of adoptive families.

Families who have completed all clearances and orientations and the SAFE Home Study may be more appealing to birth mothers than those who have not completed those processes. Families who have demonstrated ability to pay for services may also advance in priority.

A Mother's Choice will develop a profile with the birth mother, of the kind of adoptive family she desires for her child. The desired profile overrides all other factors and takes precedent in selecting the adoptive family. The birth mother's profile of her desired adoptive family may match an applicant family only beginning the process, who has not completed the higher level processes. However, in the case of a first month pregnancy, there is eight months to complete the whole process for the chosen family.

2. A birth mother is about to give birth, in a few days. She contacts A Mother's Choice. She may at any time upon request be allowed to view profiles of adoptive families.

Because of the short preparation time involved with the birth and the need for placement, families who have completed the processes for legal adoption will be given priority in profile presentation. A birth mother may be inclined to choose a family that is prepared and has passed all clearances and completed all requirements. This way, there will be no delay in placing the baby, to do the home study and complete other paperwork requirements. However again, the birth mother may override that process and select another family who has not completed the process, if her personal preferences indicate that need through profiling. In that case, the baby will continue to be well cared for until placement with the adoptive family can be legally arranged.