

Domestic Home Study Program Services

Adoption Center of Illinois provides Home Study Services to families working with other agencies or attorneys for placement purposes.

In addition to providing prospective adoptive parents with a valid home study, our fee includes the application, access to all education and training classes offered at ACI, up to five (5) post-placement visits for one (1) child, ICPC coordination, and the issuance of a court report if required for an adoption finalization. These comprehensive services are all incorporated in the home study fee. The first step is to return the application with the Phase I fee.

Home Study Only (HSO) Program	
Phase I: Comprehensive Home Study Services	
<p>Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Application Interview • Orientation • Home Study¹ • Adoption Education/Training (classes offered at our agency) • Up to 5 Post Placements Visits for one child • Court report • ICPC (Interstate Placement of Children) for Domestic <p>¹All domestic home studies must be updated annually for a \$700 fee until placement occurs.</p>	<p>Fee [due with application]: \$4,400 \$4,100 for returning ACI applicants</p>

INFORMATION ABOUT THE HOME STUDY PROCESS

Home Studies are often conducted in one meeting lasting between three and five. If you are married, both spouses must be there for the duration of the visit. If you have children or other adults living in your home, they should be present for at least part of the visit.

The majority of the Home Study is an interview format, conducted jointly with all applicants present. However, the Home Study Worker will want to meet with each applicant individually for a brief period of time. Our Home Study covers a range of topics including your adoption expectations, family history, decision to adopt, attitudes and experiences towards adoption, child rearing experiences, attitudes towards discipline, and personal values. We will be interested in where you were raised, your educational and employment history, your courtship, marriage and any previous marriages, your perceptions of yourself, your hobbies, any religious affiliations, and your home and community. We will also ask basic questions about your finances and any history of criminal arrests/convictions, child abuse, substance abuse, or domestic violence. In addition to the Interview format, your worker will conduct a tour of your home to confirm that it meets the minimum Standards for Foster Family Homes (regardless of whether you are obtaining a Foster Family Home License).

Prospective adoptive parents can expect to receive a draft of their Home Study within six (6) weeks of their Home Study visit. Upon Home Study draft review, additional interviews or documentation may be required before the Home Study can be finalized. It is ACI's desire to conduct the Home Study interviews in an effort to ensure that you and your home will provide a suitable environment for a child. Please be aware that it is the responsibility of your Home Study worker to conduct a thorough and responsible inquiry about you, your home life, and your environment to ensure the safety of any child who may be placed in your home.

We look forward to working with you!