

# AFORDING ADOPTION

Financial planning resources



**Bethany**<sup>®</sup>

# Financial resources

## Cost should never be a barrier for families who want to adopt a child.

That's why we, at Bethany, have built this collection of financial planning resources for you to reference throughout your adoption journey.

Adoption has a multitude of factors that determine your final cost. Please contact your local Bethany office for information on adoption fees specific to your location and personal situation.

### **BETHANY BELIEVES EVERY CHILD DESERVES TO BE SAFE AND LOVED**

We are a global nonprofit—in more than 30 states and more than a dozen countries—dedicated to helping families thrive.

Our core services include pregnancy counseling, adoption, foster care, and strengthening families through family preservation. We also serve refugees around the world—some who are fleeing violence and others who have been forced from their homes. Internationally, we partner with several countries to support people, right where they are.

Will you join us? Together, we can change the world through family.

### **ACCREDITATION**

Bethany is accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA) which works with organizations worldwide to improve services by developing, applying, and promoting accreditation standards. We are also accredited by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability which sets standards for responsible stewardship.



# Loan and Grant Options

## **FEDERAL ADOPTION TAX CREDIT:**

This tax credit helps offset the cost of adoption for American families and applies to nearly all types of adoption. Under the American Taxpayer Relief provision, the credit was made refundable, meaning it only benefits adoptive families with a federal income tax liability. It's not a deduction but rather a dollar-for-dollar reduction in the amount of federal taxes owed for the year.

Please check with your tax preparer for more information.

[www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

## **MILITARY SUBSIDIES:**

According to the National Military Family Association, the U.S. military will reimburse active-duty personnel for most one-time adoption costs. Travel costs are not covered. Reimbursement is made after the adoption is finalized and only if it was completed through a state adoption agency or nonprofit private agency.

Additionally, an adopted child with special needs may be eligible for monthly financial assistance under the military's Program for Persons with Disabilities. And the military's Exceptional Family Member Program is designed to ensure that the adoptive families of children with special needs are assigned to duty stations where the child's needs can be met.

[www.militaryfamily.org](http://www.militaryfamily.org)



## **EMPLOYER ASSISTANCE:**

Many companies provide adoption benefits for their employees, including time off to care for a child or cash reimbursements. The late Dave Thomas, founder of Wendy's restaurants and proponent of adoption benefits for employees, urged employees to simply approach their employers and ask. Each year, the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption announces a list of employers with the best adoption benefits in the U.S.

[www.davethomasfoundation.org](http://www.davethomasfoundation.org)

## **YOUR ADOPTION FINANCE COACH**

Receive financial assistance and resources to create a comprehensive financial plan for your adoption. Live coaches assist families, and a complete, on-demand video library is available with topics like budgeting assistance, grants and loans, and the Adoption Tax Credit. There are also live webinars with topics and expert guests from the field of adoption.

**Contact your local Bethany office to inquire.**

# Loan and Grant Options

## **CARING CONNECTION**

Funded by Bethany donors, this grant is used to remove barriers that prohibit children from being placed into loving families. Grants are available for domestic infant and foster care adoptions, as well as those adoptions that occur in our countries around the world.

**[Bethany.org/CaringConnection](https://bethany.org/CaringConnection)**

## **HELPUSADOPT.ORG\***

This national nonprofit financial assistance program provides qualified couples and individuals with grants toward adoption expenses. Applicants must have a complete, certified home study in the state they reside before applying. Grants are awarded twice a year.

**[HelpUsAdopt.org](https://helpusadopt.org)**

## **AMERICA'S CHRISTIAN CREDIT UNION (ACCU)\***

ACCU offers adoption loans for families who need assistance to complete an adoption. Credit union membership is required, and, as a faith-based organization, ACCU asks applicants to sign their statement of faith.

**[AmericasChristianCU.com](https://AmericasChristianCU.com)**

## **SHOW HOPE\***

Show Hope is dedicated to making adoption affordable for families who otherwise wouldn't be able to adopt. The organization awards grants to qualified families, depending on the family's need.

**[ShowHope.org](https://ShowHope.org)**

## **THE ABBA FUND\***

The Abba Fund provides financial assistance to Christian couples who need help with adoption expenses, based on the couple's needs and the resources available. The couple must be committed to raising their children in accordance with Scriptural principles.

**[AbbaFund.org](https://AbbaFund.org)**

## **NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR ADOPTION (NCFA)\***

NCFA offers a loan program to assist families. When a family obtains a loan, a line of credit is opened which allows the family to pay adoption costs to their Bethany branch office.

**[AdoptionCouncil.org](https://AdoptionCouncil.org)**

\*Bethany Christian Services is not affiliated with these organizations and is not responsible for any interactions you may enter into. Bethany is providing these resources for informational purposes only. Bethany is not endorsing these organizations and recommends that you research each of them to determine the best fit for your needs.

# Other financing options\*

A Child Waits Foundation

**[AChildWaits.org](https://www.achildwaits.org)**

Gift of Adoption Fund

**[GiftOfAdoption.org](https://www.giftofadoption.org)**

Brittany's Hope Foundation

**[BrittanysHope.org](https://www.brittanyshope.org)**

Life Song

**[LifeSongForOrphans.org](https://www.lifesongfororphans.org)**

Pathways for Little Feet

**[PathwaysForLittleFeet.org](https://www.pathwaysforlittlefeet.org)**

United Healthcare Children's Foundation

**[UHCCF.org](https://www.uhccf.org)**

## ADDITIONAL IDEAS

### BANK OR CREDIT CARD

Check with your financial institution or credit card company about the possibility of financing your adoption expenses through a home equity loan or other available low-interest financing.

### CHURCH

Your church community may be delighted to be involved and provide some assistance for you.

### FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Grandparents-to-be may welcome the opportunity to assist you. A short but warm letter to family and friends explaining your adoption endeavors may generate assistance you did not realize was possible.

### FUNDRAISERS

Consider holding a fundraising event to help with your adoption costs.

### NONRECURRING ADOPTION EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

Families who have finalized the adoption of a child from foster care, or another part of a state child welfare system, may be able to apply for reimbursement of expenses related to the adoption. Expenses may include home study fees, travel expenses, and attorney fees. Please contact your local state government or Bethany branch office for more details.

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