

440 Adoption Expenses



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CHAPTER 4, Adoption and Birth Parent Services

Revision Number: 09-03

Effective Date: 05/14/2009

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NOTE: SCDSS shall not consider the race, color or national origin (RCNO) of the child or prospective adoptive family in making adoption subsidy decisions. Culture shall not be used as a proxy for RCNO. Families willing to adopt children of a different RCNO shall not be subjected to differential treatment, including extra scrutiny.

The legislation that merged the South Carolina Children's Bureau and the South Carolina Department of Social Services, Section 20-7-2340, provided that: (1) The Department shall establish charges for certain adoption and related services, (2) Any charges should be based on an income scale with no family denied services because of an inability to pay, (3) No charges could be made for the placement of special needs children and (4) 75% of any monies collected must be used to pay medical and maternity expenses of Birth Parent Services clients who have no other means of paying those expenses. All expenses for families whose income is below the SSBG eligibility level are automatically waived. Expenses for other families may be waived or reduced under extenuating circumstances, upon approval by the Director of Adoption. The following adoption expenses were established pursuant to this legislation:

Application

Applicants for infants and preschool children \$25.00

Applicants for interstate services \$50.00

Applicants for intercountry services \$75.00

Home Study

Group preparation \$175.00

Individual preparation (by permission) \$300.00

Post-Placement Services

Family Income Charge

Less than \$13,000 None

\$13,000 – 14,999 \$200.00

\$15,000 – 16,999 \$300.00

\$17,000 – 19,999 \$400.00

\$20,000 – 22,999 \$500.00

\$23,000 – 25,999 \$600.00

\$26,000 – 28, 999 \$700.00

\$29,000 – 31,999 \$800.00

\$32,000 – 34,999 \$900.00

\$35,000 – 37,999 \$1000.00

\$38,000 – 40,999 \$1,150.00

\$41,000 – 43,999 \$1,250.00

\$44,000 – 46,999 \$1,350.00

\$47,000- 49,999 \$1,450.00

\$50,000 – 51,999 \$1,550.00

\$52,000 – 53,999 \$1,650.00

\$54,000 and above \$1,750.00

Other Adoption Services

Certain adoption expenses were approved prior to the March 16, 1988 effective date for the expenses outlined above. The Department charges independent Certified Investigators \$15.00 for adoption investigation certification; \$15.00 for certification to take relinquishments and consents; \$20.00 for dual certification; and \$15.00 for recertification, dual or single.

Referenced Documents

Revision Comments

NOTE added to stress that RCNO shall not be used in making adoption subsidy decisions.