
Adoptive Client Eligibility

DOMESTIC INFANT ADOPTIVE PARENT ELIGIBILITY

The Catholic Charities Domestic Infant Adoption Program has three components:

- Caucasian Heritage
- Multiracial Heritage (parents of two different races)
- Minority Heritage (parents of two minority races)



Requirements for Catholic Charities Adoptive Parents:

To be considered for Catholic Charities Domestic Adoption Program applicants are required to:

1. Be either a non cohabitating single person or a man and a woman who have been married for at least one year.
 - *It should be noted that in our experience there is a strong preference for birthparents to place with married couples. Single non cohabitating individuals wishing to adopt through our Domestic Adoption Program usually experience a lengthy wait.*
2. Be committed to a pro-life philosophy.
3. Possess adequate support from family, friends and the community regarding their decision to adopt.
4. Be grounded in faith and demonstrate a commitment to the mission and core values of Catholic Charities.
5. Be (a) stable, law abiding, responsible, mature individual (s) at least 21 years of age and capable of passing a child abuse/neglect and criminal background check.
6. Provide the names of family and unrelated individuals to attest to the applicant's character. This may also include a priest, minister or other religious leader.
7. Provide sufficient resources to provided basic necessities for themselves and the children to be adopted. It is strongly recommended that the applicant (s) have some form of health and life insurance.
8. Have an understanding of their own sense of personal history and how that helped form their values and attributes about racial, cultural and



religious similarities and differences.

9. Be committed to and capable of serving as a link between their child and their child's birth family regardless of differences
10. Be in good physical health and agree to have this verified by a physical examination as part of the homestudy process.

Qualities of Adoptive families:

1. Persons who have an understanding of their own sense of personal history and how that helped form their values and attitudes about racial, cultural and religious similarities and differences.
2. Persons who are committed to, and capable of, serving as a link between the child and the child's birth family, regardless of their cultural differences.
3. Persons who have the capacity and commitment to provide the child with racial and cultural experiences, as well as information and knowledge about their ethnicity.
4. Persons who have adequate support of family, friends and community in their decision to adopt.
5. Persons who acknowledge and are prepared to deal positively and effectively with the fact that, as a multi-cultural family, they could experience negative stereotypes.

Please note applicant (s) who previously worked with another agency must be willing to sign a Release of Information. Also, note that we may not be able to provide assistance through the Adoption Program if you live outside the Diocese of Peoria

INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION ADOPTIVE PARENTS ELIGIBILITY

GENERAL INFORMATION:



- Eligibility requirements vary depending on the country from which you are adopting
- For a child to immigrate to the United States, he/she must meet the Department of Immigration and Naturalization's definition of an orphan.
- One or both adoptive parents may need to travel to the child's country

Requirements for Catholic Charities Adoptive Parents:

To be considered for Catholic Charities Domestic Adoption Program applicants are required to:



1. Be either a non cohabitating single person or a man and a woman who have been married for at least one year.
2. Be committed to a pro-life philosophy.
3. Possess adequate support from family, friends and the community regarding their decision to adopt.
4. Be grounded in faith and demonstrate a commitment to the mission and values of Catholic Charities.
5. Be (a) stable, law abiding, responsible, mature individual (s) at least 21 years of age and capable of passing a child abuse/neglect and criminal background check.
6. Provide the names of family and unrelated individuals to attest to the applicant's character. This may also include a priest, minister or other religious leader.
7. Provide sufficient resources to provided basic necessities for themselves and the children to be adopted. It is strongly recommended that the applicant (s) have some form of health and life insurance.
8. Have an understanding of their own sense of personal history and how that helped form their values and attributes about racial, cultural and religious similarities and differences.
9. Be committed to and capable of serving as a link between their child and their child's country and culture of origin.
10. Be in good physical health and agree to have this verified by a physical examination as part of the homestudy process.
11. Complete the required 10 hours of international adoption education beyond the necessary homestudy and parent education training.

Qualities of Adoptive families:

1. Persons who have an understanding of their own sense of personal history and how that helped form their values and attitudes about racial, cultural and religious similarities and differences.
2. Persons who are committed to, and capable of, serving as a link between the child and the child's birth culture, regardless of their cultural or racial differences.
3. Persons who have the capacity and commitment to provide the child with racial and cultural experiences, as well as information and knowledge about their ethnicity. It is important that you have an attitude of respect for the country and culture of the child. If you feel your own values and culture are superior to that of the child's or if you feel that your primary orientation is to help the child become absorbed into your culture at the expense of his or her own, then you might find transcultural adoption difficult for both you and the child. You need to be open to learning more about the child's culture and encourage further exploration of his/her heritage, as this is a life long process.
4. Persons who have adequate support of family, friends and community in their decision to adopt.
5. Persons who acknowledge and are prepared to deal positively and effectively with the fact that, as a multi-cultural family, they could experience negative stereotypes.



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ADOPT WAITING CHILDREN ADOPTIVE PARENT ELIGIBILITY

GENERAL INFORMATION:



- Parents will need to complete Foster Pride Classes prior to completing the homestudy process
- If your child comes from out of state you will need to meet the requirements of both the Sending State and the State of Illinois
- If your child comes from out of State one or both parents may need to travel to the child's original State

Requirements for Catholic Charities Adoptive Parents:

To be considered for Catholic Charities Adoption Program applicants are required to:



1. Be either a non cohabitating single person or a man and a woman who have been married for at least one year.
2. Be committed to a pro-life philosophy.
3. Possess adequate support from family, friends and the community regarding their decision to adopt.
4. Be grounded in faith and demonstrate a commitment to the mission and core values of Catholic Charities.
5. Be (a) stable, law abiding, responsible, mature individual (s) at least 21 years of age and capable of passing a child abuse/neglect and criminal background check.
6. Provide the names of family and unrelated individuals to attest to the applicant's character. This may also include a priest, minister or other religious leader.
7. Provide sufficient resources to provided basic necessities for themselves and the children to be adopted. It is strongly recommended that the applicant (s) have some form of health and life insurance.
8. Have an understanding of their own sense of personal history and how that helped form their values and attributes about racial, cultural and religious similarities and differences.
9. Be committed to and capable of serving as a link between their child and other significant members of their child's past regardless of differences
10. Be in good physical health and agree to have this verified by a physical examination as part of the homestudy process.

Qualities of Adoptive families:

1. Persons who have an understanding of their own sense of personal history and how that helped form their values and attitudes about racial, cultural and religious similarities and differences.

2. Persons who are committed to, and capable of, serving as a link between the child and significant members of their child's past, regardless of their differences.
3. Persons who have the capacity and commitment to provide the child with racial and cultural experiences, as well as information and knowledge about their ethnicity.
4. Persons who have adequate support of family, friends and community in their decision to adopt.



5. Persons who acknowledge and are prepared to deal positively and effectively with the fact that, children who have experienced loss and trauma such as those children placed from foster care may present specific challenges.

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