

SUMMIT ADOPTION HOME STUDIES, INC.

Adoption Questions and Answers

Call Summit Adoption Home Studies to ask even
more questions!

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1389 SUMMIT AVENUE, ST. PAUL, MN 55015-2219

SUMMIT ADOPTION HOME STUDIES

ADOPTION QUESTIONS AND ADOPTION ANSWERS

Question:
What is needed in addition to Summit Adoption Home Studies providing the private or designated adoption home study?

Answer:

Yes, Summit Adoption Home Studies can complete the adoptive parent home study.

Birth and adoptive parents must independently work with an adoption attorney or agency to represent the birth parents, arrange for birth parent counseling or other services in accordance with the laws of Minnesota and the birth parents' state.

Summit Adoption Home Studies can help you understand the interstate compact arrangements if the child is born in another state.

Summit Adoption Home Studies can refer you to adoption attorneys or other agencies to provide these services while we work with you to provide your adoptive home study.

Question:
Can Summit Adoption Home Studies help us with a home study for us to work with an embryo donation program or service?

Answer:

Yes, Summit Adoption Home Studies can complete the prospective parent home study for a family working with an embryo donation service.

You must independently work with an adoption attorney or agency to represent the legal aspects of the embryo donation and other services in accordance with the laws of Minnesota and the donor parents' state.

Summit Adoption Home Studies can refer you to attorneys or other agencies to provide these services while we work with you to provide your home study.

Question:
What about the tax credit for adoption - what is this?

Answer:

See Internal Revenue Service publications for complete details of publications regarding 2017 adoption tax credit (Topic 607 Tax Benefits for Adoption).

Question:
I know a child that is available for adoption already – can you help me with the adoption home study?

Answer:

Summit Adoption Home Studies can do a designated adoption home study for a family that has identified a child that is available for adoption within the U.S. if it is a private placement and the child has not yet entered foster care.

If the child is in the foster care system, a family will need to contact one of the Minnesota county agencies or public/private partnership agencies for Minnesota awaiting children who will also handle licensing the family for foster care to receive the child in the home. Links to this information can be found at MARN (Minnesota Adoption Resource Network (www.mnadopt.org)) other states have children on photo listings on the web for many U.S. states and you will need to work with a home study agency that can license you for foster care as well.

We can assist with a home study for a child being placed in an adoption disruption if the child has not yet entered the foster care system.

<p>Question: Should I take classes as part of the home study process?</p>	<p>Answer: Classes are highly recommended and often required. A birth parent will feel more comfortable knowing you have more knowledge of the issues involved in adoption and you will be more prepared. Online classes are available through www.adoptionlearningpartners.org or www.adoptiontrainingonline.com or your child referral agency may have a program. Fees are paid directly to those services.</p>
<p>Question: Are there consultant services that can help me to prepare "Dear Birth Parent" profiles?</p>	<p>Answer: Myadoptionadvisor.com and Theadoptionconsultancy.com are services that have helped many families in presenting themselves in the best way to birth families and coach the prospective adoptive family through other aspects in adoption networking. Summit Adoption Home Studies can prepare your home study as a licensed adoption agency.</p>
<p>Question: Can I get references?</p>	<p>Answer: Many references can be provided regarding home study and international child referral services. Many families have adopted with us more than once and we have a lot of referrals from families who pass our agency name on to another family.</p> <p>Summit Adoption Home Studies is licensed in Minnesota under Rule 4 as a child placing adoption agency and you can verify the licensing status of all Minnesota adoption agencies through the Minnesota Department of Human Services at 651-296-7635 or under the Minnesota Department of Human Services web site under Licensing.</p>
<p>Question: What should I expect from Summit Adoption Home Studies to support me through the process?</p>	<p>Answer:</p> <p><u>Parenting:</u> The most important reason you have started on the path to adoption. We give support and referrals for simple and complicated concerns about becoming a parent. Each family has different levels of needs for support and parenting education. This is handled based on your individual situation.</p> <p><u>Paperwork:.</u> This must be done so we provide easy to follow, personal guidance to getting this done as quickly as possible from initial consultation to completion of your child's adoption into your family.</p> <p><u>Paperwork for your child:</u> This is handled by the child referral service or attorney you use. We will support you to help you understand what is needed to complete this paperwork - whether it is an interstate compact for U.S. adoption or how an attorney can help you.</p> <p><u>Perspective:</u> Adoption requirements from the legal and emotional perspective, can be the most challenging, time consuming and often frustrating part of the path to parenting. We'll work to provide perspective to help you keep your adoption in sight despite the inevitable challenges that will occur along the path.</p> <p><u>Professionalism:</u> Summit Adoption can fully support the adoption cycle of needs</p>

and has developed access to a wide variety of adoption resources for families.

Passages: Becoming and being a parent through adoption or birth is a journey full of joys and challenges. Contact can be arranged with other adoptive parents through our agency and there are many on-line support groups for waiting and new adoptive parents.

Question:
Can Summit Adoption Home Studies help me with an international adoption home study?

Answer:

Summit Adoption Home Studies has a long history since 1994 of helping with international adoption with over 51 countries represented and 868 children adopted. Summit Adoption Home Studies began specializing in domestic and home studies needed for embryo donation in 2012 and recommends you check the web site adoption.state.gov for a list of Minnesota Hague accredited agencies that can assist you with an international home study.

Question:
What is ICPC?

Answer:

If a child is born in one state, commonly known as the "sending state" and the adoptive family lives in another state, called the "receiving state", the adoption placement must be approved by the **ICPC**, the Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children. All states are members of the **ICPC**. For the purposes of an adoption, It is illegal to move a child across state lines without meeting the requirements of the **ICPC**.

The documentation submitted to the **ICPC** for approval from the State the birth child is born in includes the adoptive parents' home study, the child's birth information and other health information, biological information on the birth parents, and relinquishment or termination documentation from the birth parents. Documentation for the child and the adopting parents will be forwarded to the **ICPC** office in the sending state (child's birth state) which will forward the documents to the **ICPC** office in the receiving state (Minnesota). The **ICPC** offices review the documentations to verify that their state laws are being followed.

Once approval is has been made, the child can be approved to travel home with the adopting family who are from Minnesota. Minnesota laws need to be followed regarding direct adoptive placements or agency placements. It is recommended to hire an adoption professional such as adoption attorney or agency to assist with the **ICPC** procedures and Minnesota law.

Summit Adoption Home Studies families have had their children arrive from 29 states with ICPC approval in addition to children born in Minnesota (where an ICPC is not needed for a Minnesota family).

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