



# About Gift of Adoption Grants

Gift of Adoption is the largest provider of adoption assistance grants awarded **without regard to race, religion, age, marital status, gender, or sexual orientation.** Grants of up to \$15,000 are awarded to qualified applicants to remove financial barriers and make possible the adoptions of children in vulnerable circumstances in the U.S. and around the world. **There is no application deadline.** Families are invited to apply anytime after completing their home study\* and before finalization.

Gift of Adoption provides grants to complete **both domestic and international adoptions and relative/kinship adoptions.** Any U.S. citizen who has an approved adoption home study\* from a Hague accredited agency (if international adoption) or licensed social worker (if domestic adoption) is eligible to apply.

Gift of Adoption considers the totality of circumstances when reviewing grant applications. While not limited to these categories, Gift of Adoption's **greatest funding priorities** encompass grants that:

- Help children who are in or are at risk of entering the U.S. foster care system.
- Unite biological siblings or prevent them from being separated.
- Support relative, kinship or fictive kin adoptions.
- Prevent a child from 'aging-out' of an international orphanage system.
- Prevent children with special needs from becoming institutionalized.
- Facilitate the placement of a child with a life-threatening or critical medical conditions.

Financial need, perseverance, and imminence of the adoption must be demonstrated.

The Grant Selection Committee evaluates a number of factors when considering an application including:

- The qualifications of the applicant.** (U.S. citizen with an approved home study from a licensed agency adopting domestically or internationally from Hague accredited agency.)
- The imminence of the adoption.**
- The financial need of the applicant.**
- The perseverance shown** by the applicant to complete the adoption.

*\*If a home study is not required for your adoption, you may still apply without a home study.*

**For complete information, visit:**  
[giftofadoption.org/apply-for-a-grant/](http://giftofadoption.org/apply-for-a-grant/)

**Questions?**  
**Contact Brian Murphy**  
[bmurphy@giftofadoption.org](mailto:bmurphy@giftofadoption.org)



## **Adoption of 18–21-Year-Old Former Foster Youth**

*Financial Barrier:* For youth 18-21 who were formerly in foster care and are seeking permanency through adoption and costs are the responsibility of the adoptive family.

Expenses that May be Covered:

- Attorney fees/legal costs
- Court costs
- Travel/Moving costs to get young adult home to adoptive family.
- Shipping costs of young adult's belongings to adoptive home.
- GOA will consider any costs directly connected to the adoption.

## **Relative/Kinship Licensing**

*Financial Barrier:* Relative or fictive kin is adopting child from foster care and needs to relocate, complete home safety, accessibility, or access improvements to become licensed to adopt child. If these costs are the responsibility of the adoptive family and are not covered by state or federal subsidies, GOA can help.

Expenses that May be Covered:

- Relocation expenses (moving expenses/deposit)
- Home/vehicle improvements
- Specific Items identified by the family's case worker as required to become licensed and confirmed to be the only things preventing the adoption from completing. These may include but are not limited to pool fences, mold/radon mitigation, pest control, added window, etc.

## **Private Adoption from Foster Care**

*Financial Barrier:* Paying the final costs to complete the private adoption. These costs are the responsibility of the adoptive family and are not covered by state or federal subsidies.

Expenses that May be Covered:

- Any fees directly related to the adoption process and finalization including:
  - Legal fees
  - Paperwork fees
  - Agency fees
  - Finalization fees
- GOA Cannot cover expenses connected to a contested adoption but can provide funding once resolved.

For more information, visit:

[giftofadoption.org/apply/pilotprograms/](https://giftofadoption.org/apply/pilotprograms/)

