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# ARIZONA HOME STUDY INFORMATION

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Starting your home study is the first step in your adoption journey. Your home study is a document that is compiled by your adoption Social Worker. Once your home study is completed, it is submitted to the Arizona Supreme Court for certification. The State of Arizona requires all Arizona citizens to become certified by an Arizona licensed adoption agency before they adopt. This is for both International and Domestic adoptions. A Child's Dream is licensed in Arizona to complete home study certification reports.

The following list is intended to give you an idea of the information that is needed to complete your home study. Other documents and information may be required depending on your specific situation. Some of the information requires specific forms which are available once you have signed an agency application and home study contract. In addition to these documents, a home visit by your adoption social worker, and one other face to face visit is required.

1. A completed agency application and home study contract
2. Marriage certificate, Divorce decree (if applicable), Death certificate of former spouses (if applicable)
3. Copy of your certified birth certificates (also for children currently in your home)
4. Copy of signed 1040 for past tax year
5. Physician=s Report for each adult member of your household
6. Physician=s report for children in your home
7. Copy of the photo page of your passports
8. Most recent checking AND savings account statement.
9. Most recent 401K/Pension/IRA/SEP statement
10. Copy of last 2 months pay stubs for each working adult
11. Most recent Stocks/Bond statement
12. A copy of your Life Insurance Policy Statement page
13. A copy of your Health Insurance Cards (adults) and Health Insurance Policy page that states adopted children are covered under the policy
14. Autobiography for each parent (guidelines included in home study packet)
15. Five references (reference forms will be provided)
16. Social Security numbers of all persons residing in your home
17. Military discharge papers (if applicable)
18. Financial worksheet
19. Other medical and financial information as deemed necessary
20. Finger print cards for all adult members of your family

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The cost for a home study with A Child's Dream is \$1400 (\$900 home study fee and \$500 application fee).

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When comparing agencies and costs, be sure and ask about ALL the fees associated with the home study. Also watch out for those who offer "expedited" home study services. The fact is an adoption agency can expedite your actual home study document by compiling it quickly, but they CANNOT expedite the fingerprint processing time, nor the time it takes the judge to read and certify your home study. Fingerprint results generally take 4-8 weeks, and then it can take another several weeks for the judge to actually read your home study and certify you. So having it "expedited" does not facilitate a quicker certification process.

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The home study is a cooperative effort between you and your social worker. A Child's Dream will commit to submitting your home study at the earliest possible date providing you submit all necessary documents in a timely manner. Submission of your home study to the court is not a guarantee of approval. The final certification approval is issued by the judge or commissioner who reads your home study.

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It takes approximately 30-60 days to complete your home study process. This is an estimated time frame. There are many reasons for delays some of which include fingerprint processing time and court backlog.

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If you have home study questions, or would like to complete your Arizona home study with A Child's Dream, please contact:

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