



Placement

Education

Support

Community

Understanding Pact's Services and Fees

As of January 2018

Consultation Fees

Pre-Placement Consultation: All Pact clients participate in at least one consultation meeting, either in person or by phone, before applying to enter our placement program. Content will be tailored to your particular situation. The focus may be on adoption issues, racial issues, parenting issues, or planning and strategies. Appointments usually last one-and-a-half to two hours. [The \\$400.00 fee and signed forms \(fee agreement and questionnaire\) are due in advance.](#) We work to ensure that the consultation is meaningful and useful to you, whether or not you continue to work with Pact.

Building Community Across Cultures (BCAC) Consultation: If you are planning a transracial adoption, we work to fulfill our ethical obligation to the child who will be joining your family by providing you with education about what to expect and how to prepare. [The \\$500 fee and signed forms \(fee agreement and questionnaire\) are due in advance.](#)

- For pre-adoptive families who wish to be considered ONLY as candidates to adopt across racial lines (no parent will share racial or ethnic identity with the child), we require completion of the BCAC program prior to beginning a placement application with Pact.
- For pre-adoptive families who wish to be considered as candidates for a same-race placement AS WELL AS for a placement across racial lines (for instance, pre-adoptive parents of color, open to adopting children of color who may not share their racial identity), you will need to complete the BCAC program prior to becoming eligible to adopt transracially.

Placement Service Fees

Pact's sliding scale: Our commitment is first and foremost to the best interest of the child. That means listening to and counseling expectant parents who contact us, and never pressuring them to make an adoption plan. It means listening to and counseling the pre-adoptive parents who contact us, and making sure they are ready for the complexity of adoption, both those adopting children who share their racial heritage and those adopting transracially. It means offering all these services on a steep sliding scale (and free to expectant parents) so that low- and middle-income families are not barred from the process because of prohibitive costs. This sliding scale places a greater burden on higher income families and on Pact, as we underwrite the actual adoption costs for lower income families. For those of you who will pay more, your fees are helping to subsidize services for children in need.



pact

Placement

Education

Support

Community

In order to ensure that we apply our sliding scale fairly, we collect information from each pre-adoptive family that gives us an unbiased idea of income, assets and ability to fund an adoption. For families who live on earned-income paychecks, generally the fee will be determined by gross income. For those who have assets such as property beyond the home they live in and/or cash/stocks/other investments, we look at net worth to determine where families fit on the scale. We work hard to ensure that those who can afford to parent, but cannot afford the high costs of adoption, are not barred from becoming parents by our fees.

Fee Schedule: Families will pay only those fees applicable to their situation. *(See explanation of fees on next page.)*

Income	Home Study Fee <i>for CA Residents (if applicable)</i>	Case Management Fee 1 <i>Due with Application</i>	Case Management Fee 2 <i>Due at Placement</i>	Legal Fee <i>Due at Advisement (if applicable)</i>	Post Placement Fee <i>Due at 1st meeting (if applicable)</i>
\$0-99,999	\$1750	\$1300	\$2700	\$1000	\$1500
\$100-119,999	\$2000	\$1700	\$3300	\$1250	\$2000
\$120-149,999	\$2500	\$2000	\$4000	\$1500	\$2500
\$150-199,999	\$3000	\$2400	\$4600	\$2000	\$3000
\$200-249,999	\$3500	\$2700	\$5300	\$2500	\$3500
\$250-300,000	\$4000	\$3000	\$6000	\$3000	\$4000
More than \$300K	\$4500	\$3500	\$6500	\$3500	\$4500

Needed Families Program¹: In order to ensure that our fee structure does not make it impossible for families to adopt through Pact, we have created our “Needed Families” program. Eligibility is strictly a function of the kind of families that are needed for clients with whom Pact is working. For families whose incomes are below \$100,000, and who fit the profile of needed/in-demand parents to adopt the children we place, the following scale can be employed.

Income	Home Study Fee <i>for CA Residents (if applicable)</i>	Case Management Fee 1 <i>Due with Application</i>	Case Management Fee 2 <i>Due at Placement</i>	Legal Fee <i>Due at Advisement (if applicable)</i>	Post Placement Fee <i>Due at 1st meeting (if applicable)</i>
\$0-24,999	\$750	\$300	\$700	\$500	\$500
\$25-49,999	\$1000	\$500	\$1000	\$700	\$750
\$50-74,999	\$1250	\$800	\$1600	\$850	\$1000
\$75-100,000	\$1500	\$1100	\$2200	\$1000	\$1250

¹ Because we have limited funds we cannot offer these lower fees to every family whose income is below \$100,000. Eligibility will be decided on a case-by-case basis.



pact

Placement

Education

Support

Community

Fee Explanations

Home Study Fee

If a family is located in a California county in which Pact is licensed, then Pact may provide their home study. The family will need to pay the home study fee prior to the first home study visit. Home study fees range from \$1750 - \$4500 (as determined by sliding scale). Fees cover family and individual interviews, paperwork processing and the writing and approval of the home study. Families will be responsible for the costs of finger printing for DOJ, FBI and child abuse clearance as well as any costs incurred to obtain the required reports (medical, financial, employment) for the home study. Home studies are valid for two years, after which they must be updated. Some home study documents (e.g. finger printing, medical) must be updated annually.

Case Management Fee

All families or individuals who choose to continue the process with us after an initial consultation will pay a Pact fee ranging from \$1000-\$10,000 (as determined by sliding scale), divided into two payments. Pact fees cover services provided by Pact staff on your behalf, such as: presenting your profile to expectant parents, providing case management services to you and expectant parents, outreach to professionals on your behalf, and counseling during the match and placement process. The initial (lower) payment will be remitted along with your application forms, after you have completed required consultation and are ready to apply to become a Pact placement client. The final (higher) payment will be due at the time that you take physical custody of your child.

Legal Fee

In instances that Pact completes the advisement/ relinquishment and/or Pact conducts a portion of an interstate adoption, families will pay Pact legal fees. Legal fees cover services provided to the expectant parent(s) as well as the process of preparing, sending and filing of the Interstate Compact for the Protection of Children (ICPC). Pact legal fees do not cover the cost of finalization and range from \$500 - \$3500 (as determined by sliding scale). In extremely rare circumstances, additional fees may need to be charged for complicated legal situations involving the named expectant father(s). We do our best to provide the estimated cost upfront, but this information may not be known until a match has been made.

Post-Placement Fee

When a family has their home study through Pact, Pact is responsible for post-placement supervision visits. The post-placement fee is due in advance at the time that the first post-placement visit is scheduled. Post-placement fees range from \$1500-\$4500 (as determined by sliding scale). Post placement fees cover visits and interviews in the home, and the writing and approval of the post-placement report needed to finalize the adoption.

Additional Fees

The client is responsible for direct costs incurred by Pact in provision of placement services. These generally fall into three categories: Transportation (mileage, travel, parking, etc.), Communications (special postage costs, delivery services, copying a high volume of documents, collect calls, etc.), or Professional Services (hired translator, notary, others needed to provide placement services). On



pact

Placement

Education

Support

Community

rare occasion, if significant case management time is needed, additional fees may be charged.

Coordination of Expectant Parent Expenses

In many states, expectant mothers with a committed adoption plan can have their living and pregnancy-related expenses covered by the pre-adoptive parents. Pre-placement, and for a short post-placement period, these can include, but are not limited to, reasonable needs such as housing, utilities, transportation, food, adoption education materials, and maternity clothing. Post-placement long term, we set aside funds to assist with grief/life counseling for first/birth parents who cannot otherwise afford such services. All Pact clients are required to set a minimum budget of \$1500 for pre- and post-placement services. Pact placement clients never disburse these funds directly but rather use Pact who will provide services needed to pay bills directly, manage funds, and track payments made. The initial payment of \$1500 will be remitted once your home study has been received and you are eligible to have your profile shared with expectant parents.

When Expectant Parents Work with Other Adoption Professionals

Pact is frequently contacted by other adoption professionals/providers seeking Pact's pre-adoptive families to match with the expectant parent(s) with whom they are working. In these instances, each adoption will incur additional fees from the other service providers. These might include additional agency and legal fees, travel expenses, pregnancy-related expenses for the expectant mother, and counseling fees. Each family sets an adoption budget to determine the maximum costs for the adoptions they can consider. Each family's profile will be submitted only in appropriate situations in which all combined fees, including Pact's, fit within the family's stated budget.

When Adoptive Parents Work with Other Adoption Professionals

Pact takes a full-service approach to all adoptions in which we are involved, because we believe that is the only way to ensure our ethical commitment to the children we serve. We apply this same approach to all families, whether they are working with other professionals or not. We require all families to participate in consultations and ongoing education with us and do not provide "à la carte" or "home study only" services.

PAARP (Private Adoption Agency Reimbursement Program) Fee Adjustment

On rare occasion, Pact will facilitate a placement where the child is a dependent of the court or would become a dependent of the court. Federal subsidies through the Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) exist to encourage the adoption of special needs children who are in the child welfare system or are likely to become dependents of the court. If Pact receives any reimbursements through PAARP, we will offer to reimburse the adoptive family their fees paid, not to exceed the total amount paid by PAARP.

Refund Policy

Potential clients have the right to a refund, without penalty, except for any reasonable fee actually earned by Pact, for seventy-two hours after signing any contract. After the seventy-two-hour period, Pact is not obligated to provide any refund for services completed, including in the event that no child is adopted by the client family. Refunds, when applicable, are generally issued within 30 days of request.