



6323 South East Street • Indianapolis, IN • 46227
T: 317.875.0058 **F:** 317.602.6301
 mljadoptions.org

Burkina Faso Program Adoption Fees

Adoption Application \$395

**1st
Payment
\$4,900**

Due with Service Agreement to Begin the Adoption Process	
Agency Fee (1st portion)	\$3,550
Home Study Review/Education	\$850
IAAME Monitoring & Oversight Fee per child*	\$500
*See additional fees on page 9 & 10. Families residing in an MLJ licensed state will add \$1,625 for the home study.	

**2nd
Payment
\$5,250**

Due Upon Completion of Home Study Draft <i>Usually about 2-4 months after the First Payment</i>	
Agency Fee (2nd Portion)	\$2,650
Dossier Assistance/Review	\$2,600

**3rd
Payment
\$6,800**

Due Upon Dossier Submission <i>Usually about 2-4 months after the Second Payment</i>	
Foreign Country Program Expenses (1st Portion)	\$3,800
Translations/Authentications/Shipping	\$3,000
See Fees Paid Abroad on page 4 and 5.	

**4th
Payment
\$5,023**

Due Upon Referral Acceptance <i>Timeline depends on when a family is matched with a child.</i>	
Foreign Country Program Expenses (2nd Portion)	\$3,763
Six Months Orphanage/Foster Home Support (\$210/month)	\$1,260
See Fees Paid Abroad on pages 4 and 5.	

**5th
Payment
\$5,413**

Due 14 Days Prior to Travel <i>Usually about 8-12 months after the 4th Payment.</i>	
Foreign Country Program Expenses (3rd Portion)	\$3,763
Post-Adoption Agency Services	\$1,650
Families residing in an MLJ licensed state will add \$450 per post-adoption report and visit. Please see page 6 & 7 for reporting requirements. See Fees Paid Abroad and Post Adoption Fees on page 6 & 7.	

Fees paid to and through MLJ Adoptions \$27,781 Estimated cost of third party payments and travel on following pages

All amounts listed are in United States Dollars (USD) unless otherwise noted. Families may pay with check, all major credit cards, bank wire or a direct bank debit. A 3% transaction fee will be added to all credit card payments excluding application payments. A fee of \$16 will be added for each incoming wire payment. Fees will not be waived or refunded, except as noted below.

Prospective Adoptive Family,

Welcome to the beginning of your adoption journey! I'm sure you're feeling a mix of anticipation and a bit of trepidation right now, especially when it comes to how you're going to afford an adoption. We're here to assist you!

On page one, the fees that you'll pay to and through MLJ Adoptions are broken down by each step of the adoption process. Below we share other expenses that you will pay throughout the process to other agencies, USCIS and for travel. We have done our best to address questions that you may have about which fees cover what and what services you are paying for. If you have additional questions about when payments are due or what fees may apply to your family, please let us know. We are thrilled to be able to walk alongside your family on your adoption journey!

Sincerely,

Karlene Edgemon, MSW
Executive Director

First Payment

ADOPTION FEES PAID TO MLJ

When is the application fee due?

After consultation with our client intake specialist and your decision has been made to move forward with international adoption, your first step is filling out an adoption application. The application fee is due once you filled out the adoption application.

Which fees are paid to MLJ and what are they for?

The agency fees cover MLJ's cost to arrange and support family's adoption in the United States and abroad. The fees include, but are not limited to, personnel costs, administrative overhead, operational costs, staff training and education, foreign provider training and education, state, federal, and foreign licensing and accreditations, communications and insurance. Any reduction of agency fees will be at the discretion of MLJ (typically only in the event of a grant or limited time promotion), no other fees will be reduced.

What is the IAAME Monitoring & Oversight Fee?

The IAAME Monitoring & Oversight Fee is a fee paid through MLJ Adoptions to Intercountry Adoption Accreditation and Maintenance Entity (IAAME). This fee will enable IAAME to monitor and oversee international adoption agencies and is non-refundable.

How and why are the fees different depending on my state?

No matter where you live, MLJ Adoptions will be your placing agency otherwise known as your primary provider. If your family resides in a state where MLJ is licensed, MLJ will complete the home study assessment and post-adoption reporting for you. If your family resides in a state where MLJ is not licensed to provide home study services, we are not able to conduct your home study and post-adoption services directly. Your family will be responsible for obtaining home study services and required post-adoption reports from a Hague Accredited service provider within your state. MLJ will approve your home study provider and enter into a relationship with them so that we may work collaboratively with you and your provider towards the successful completion of your home study and post-adoption reporting services.

Families residing in an MLJ licensed state will add \$1,625 to their first payment for home study services and add \$450 to the fourth payment per post-adoption report. Home study updates completed by MLJ, completed every twelve months, cost \$600. Families completing their home study with MLJ will be charged the standard IRS mileage rate for the miles travelled roundtrip for each home study, home study update and post-adoption visit.

Families completing a home study with a different provider should consult that provider regarding any travel cost associated with the home study, home study update or addendum, and any state or agency required home study updates and post-adoption reports. The cost of home study and post-adoption services will vary by provider. The estimated standard fee for a home study is \$2000-\$4500. The estimated standard fee for a post-adoption report is \$400-\$600 per report.

What does my education fee pay for?

The education fee pays for your access to the Hague packet which covers all the Hague training and additional classes assigned during your adoption process. This provides you free access to training. Upon review of home study, additional classes may be assigned to families based on their dynamics and where the child(ren) they are adopting from.

How do I select a home study provider if I do not live in an MLJ licensed state?

MLJ will be able to assist you in finding a Hague Accredited adoption provider located in your state. You are welcome to visit [IAAME](#) or contact us directly for assistance. It is our policy that families work with a Hague Accredited agency, unless there is no Hague agency in your state or working with a Hague agency would create a significant hardship. Agencies who pursue a Hague accreditation will typically be more experienced in intercountry adoption and will likely be better able to serve, prepare and support your family before and after your adoption.

In the event there is no Hague Accredited provider in the family's state or MLJ has otherwise agreed in writing that the family is permitted to use a non-Hague Accredited provider due to hardship, families will pay an additional \$375 fee for the required Hague letter approving a full home study and associated review. The \$375 will be due to review each new home study for families using a non-Hague Accredited provider. Additionally, families not using a Hague Accredited provider will be responsible to pay \$150 for any home study update or addendum reviews and corresponding letter that is needed.

REFUND POLICY & PAST DUE ACCOUNTS

Under what circumstances may my family be eligible to receive a refund?

If you provide a written request for a refund to Accounts@MLJAdoptions.com and also to our mailing address within ten (10) days of the initial payment, you will be reimbursed 75% of the first payment fee. The 75% reimbursement of the first payment will be refunded to Parent(s) within sixty (60) days of the request. The adoption application fee and IAAME Monitoring & Oversight fee are nonrefundable under any circumstances. MLJ Adoptions will return any paid funds for which the adoptive parent may be entitled within 60 days of the completion of delivery of services, for if the adoptive parent paid for a service that was not provided. All donations made to MLJ Adoptions are non-refundable.

What happens if a payment is late or missed?

Payments are due at time specified on the fee sheet. All payments must be made in full prior to travel for the family's trip to bring their child(ren) home.

Families with a past due balance greater than 30 days will have a hold placed on their adoption services until the account is brought current. A 1% finance charge will be assessed to all accounts more than 30 days past due, 5% for accounts more than 60 days past due, and 12% for accounts more than 90 days past due.

If it becomes necessary to pursue collection of any past due account balance through outside sources (collection agency, IN Attorney General, or local attorney) reasonable collection costs, attorney fees, court costs, and contingency fees will also be added to the outstanding balance.

As adoptions may take many months to complete, fees and costs are subject to change over the course of the adoption process.

Second Payment

Which fees are paid to MLJ and what are they for?

The agency fees cover MLJ's cost to arrange and support family's adoption in the United States and abroad. The fees include, but are not limited to, personnel costs, administrative overhead, operational costs, staff training and education, foreign provider training and education, state, federal, and foreign licensing and accreditations, communications and insurance. Any reduction of agency fees will be at the discretion of MLJ (typically only in the event of a grant or limited time promotion), no other fees will be reduced.

What is being provided for my dossier assistance and review?

The fees paid towards dossier assistance and review include fees associated with support provided to assist the adoptive parents with the gathering of dossier documents required by the country, providing instruction on obtaining the correct documents, apostilling and certifying instructions and review of the dossier documents to ensure compliance with the country's requirements and specifications for the dossier prior to submission to the country. Costs also include copying, emailing and shipping to the foreign country.

What are the potential additional fees for any additional services that my family may require?

Should families request or require the additional services listed below, the following fees will apply. Home study update is required annually and in the event of any household changes.

Review of subsequent Hague home study	\$150
Education	\$150
Home Study Update/Translations	\$15/page
Home Study Update/Shipping	\$40-\$100 (estimated)
Home Study Update/Authentication	\$25/document (estimated)
Copy/Mailing Fees (subsequent services, if requested)	\$90/hour
Indiana Background Checks	\$125/adoptive parent
Indiana Background Checks Additional Household Member	\$25/person
Out-of-State Background Check	\$25/person
Hold fee, if you place your adoption on hold for 12 months	\$500
Extended hold fee, for additional 12 months	\$750
File re-activation fee	\$500
Care package carried by staff member	\$75/care package
Care package shipped via DHL	Actual DHL fee for shipping

We previously completed an adoption with MLJ Adoptions, are there any discounts available?

Yes, families who previously completed an international adoption with MLJ will receive a \$1,000 reduction on their 2nd payment and will not have to re-pay their application payment.

**Third Payment
(Fourth & Fifth Payment)**

FEES PAID ABROAD TO MLJ FOREIGN PROVIDERS

Which fees are paid abroad and what are they for?

The foreign fees include, but are not limited to, costs for personnel, administrative overhead, training and education abroad, legal services, communications, and any other costs related to support a family's adoption abroad. For additional wires that are made at the request of adoptive families for additional services, a \$75 bank processing fee will be charged to families for each separate wire abroad. This fee is the total of the bank fees assessed by the sending and receiving banks. This fee is an estimate of the bank fees assessed by the sending, intermediary and receiving banks.

The foreign fee breakdown for Burkina Faso fees paid to the foreign provider (pass through fees) are as follows:

Open file at Foreign Provider's office	\$200	Ali Neya
File adoption-related court petitions including attorney, administrative and transportation expenses	\$2,500	Ali Neya & Court
Obtain birth certificate including attorney, administrative, transportation and passport fees	\$900	Ali Neya
Certificate of Non-Appeal, Certificate of Non-Opposition, and Certificate of Nationality	\$600	Ali Neya
Obtain child's Exit approval	\$300	Ali Neya
File and oversee case at the Ministry including facilitating family appointments and post-adoption reporting and all fees due to the Ministry	\$2,500	Ali Neya
Establish criminal history report for passport, required stamps, taxes, and copies & binding	\$501	Ali Neya
Cost of child visa / US Embassy	\$325	Adoptive Parents
Coordinate with orphanage or foster home for periodic photo updates, video-chats when available, delivery of interim care payments & care packages, (Attorney services & transportation; Embassy required medical, delivery of documents to the US Embassy.	\$1,500	Ali Neya
Provide in-country support to families	\$2,000	Ali Neya

FEES PAID DIRECTLY BY FAMILY TO THIRD PARTIES

The expected total fees and expenses for services that families will be responsible to pay directly to a third party is estimated to be between \$1,810 and \$6,110. These fees are due throughout the process and may include, but are not limited to, fees to the following:

Hague-accredited home study, non-MLJ licensed state Paid to Home Study Provider	\$2,000 - \$4,000
USCIS Filing Fee (per each unrelated child)	\$775
Birth Certificates / Marriage Certificates Fees may vary – check with your state's Vital Records Office	\$10 - \$20
Apostilles paid to Secretary of State	\$55 average of CA, NY, IN & TX
Apostille charges for apostille services provided by MLJ	\$25 per document
Fingerprints per person paid to USCIS	\$85
Convention Adoptee Visa: I-800 (Hague)	\$325
U.S. Legal Services, if applicable	Varies

Paid to an independent attorney	
USCIS Application for Extensions or changes	\$325
Post-Adoption Reports in your state of residence	\$400 - \$600
Paid to your home study provider	
Re-adoption/Adoption in state of residence	\$800 - \$1,500
Customary contribution to adoption celebration paid to orphanage or foster home.	\$100

These fees are estimates only and may change at any time. Additional expenses may include medical services, wiring fees and mailing of update documents. Ministère de l'Action Sociale et de la Solidarité Nationale or the U.S. government may request additional information or documents which may require additional expense. In the Burkina Faso program, there is limited medical information given. You may incur additional medical costs for your child during the visa process if your child requires additional or updated vaccines. The cost of vaccines would be determined by the type of vaccine needed and how many vaccines are required. Approximate cost is \$100 – 250.

ESTIMATED COST OF TRAVEL

The expected total fees and expenses for any travel, transportation, and accommodation for one trip of two adults and one child is **estimated to be between \$7,500 and \$10,000**. Families can expect to spend approximately fifteen days in Burkina Faso. These fees may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Airfare – 2 Adoptive Parents round trips	\$1,600 - \$2,400 per person
Airfare – Child One Way	\$1,200 - \$2,000
Accommodations	\$200 - \$300/night
Ground transportation in-country	\$1,000 - \$2,000 per trip
Optional cost for driver & translator for recreational outings	\$65 - \$100 per day

Fourth Payment

What is the orphanage/foster home support fee?

The orphanage/foster home support fee includes childcare supplies, housing and staff expenses. If the child is in interim childcare beyond six months, families will be invoiced \$210/month on the seventh month and thereafter until the child comes home. Please understand this time frame is unknown and parents are responsible for the fees associated with the care of the child until placement occurs. This amount is paid to Ministère de l'Action Sociale et de la Solidarité Nationale, who is responsible for the child's care pending placement. (Average estimated time the child will spend in orphanage/foster home is approximately 12 months totaling \$1,260)

Fifth Payment

POST-ADOPTION FEES PAID TO MLJ

What is the breakdown of the \$1,650 fee in the fourth payment?

Post-Adoption Report Administration Fee	\$1,000
Post-Adoption Refundable Deposit	\$500
Support Services/Facebook Support Group/Resources/Additional Services after Post-Adoption	\$150

What are the requirements related to post-adoption reporting for Burkina Faso?

Currently, MLJ requires an agency-completed report one month after the date of placement. Burkina Faso requires agency-completed reports at 6-, 12-, 18-, and 24-months from the date of placement and then annually from the date of placement until the child turns 18, with at least ten printed photos to include pictures of the whole family and pictures of the child alone. Reports must be notarized and apostilled. If you do not live in an MLJ licensed state, your home study agency or state may require additional post adoption reports. Country requirements are subject to change without notice. Families expressly agree to comply with all required post-adoption reporting requirements.

How do I get my \$500 post-adoption deposit back?

The post-adoption deposit will be placed in an escrow account and will be returned upon the successful and timely completion of all required post-adoption reports submitted within two years after placement, the re-adoption or finalization of foreign adoption decree within family's state of residence and proof of receipt of the child's certificate of citizenship. The re-adoption or finalization and the certificate of citizenship must be completed and submitted to MLJ on or before the date of the last required post-adoption report necessary to receive the post-adoption deposit.

Frequently Asked Questions

How are fees paid to MLJ?

All amounts listed are in United States dollars unless otherwise noted. Families may pay with check, all major credit cards, bank wire or a direct bank debit. A 3% transaction fee will be added to all credit card payments excluding application payments. A fee of \$16 will be added for each incoming wire payment.

How can I afford adoption?

There are many ways families afford adoption, many of our families utilize a combination of sacrificial saving, fundraising, and grants. Adoption grants are available from a variety of organizations. Please refer to the [MLJ Adoptions Financial Resources Guide](#). The maximum [adoption tax credit](#) for the adoption of a child is up to \$13,840. Please consult your tax professional to see if you will benefit from this credit.

What if my country program closes or the laws change, and my family is no longer permitted to adopt from Burkina Faso?

Payments made to MLJ Adoptions are for services rendered and are not to be considered payment for children. If your adoption is suspended due to program changes, MLJ Adoptions may at their discretion choose to credit up to \$5,000 to another country program for which the family is eligible.

In the case of country closure, parent ineligibility, contract termination, or adoption failure or adoption withdrawal, international fees that have been collected for services that have not yet been distributed abroad will be refunded. Although MLJ Adoptions will work hard to obtain the refund of any international fees paid to a foreign coordinator/attorney/authority, MLJ Adoptions cannot make any assurances or promises for the return of international fees/program country expenses.

Signature of First Parent

Print Name of First Parent

Date of Signing

Signature of Second Parent

Print Name of Second Parent

Date of Signing

Appendix A: For Families Considering the Adoption of Multiple Children

ADOPTIONS OF SECOND AND SUBSEQUENT CHILDREN

Fees are for the adoption services for one child. It may be possible to adopt more than one child from Burkina Faso, though referrals for sibling groups and for two unrelated children at the same time are rare. These fees do not include additional medical services, immigration or travel expenses.

Families who are matched with a sibling group or two unrelated children from the waiting child list will pay the following fees if the adoptions occur at the same time:

First Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

Second Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

Fifth Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

4th Payment	Due Upon Acceptance of Additional Child Referral	
	Foreign Country Program Fee (First Portion)	\$6,115
	Six Months Orphanage/Foster Home Support	\$1,260
	IAAME Monitoring & Oversight Fee	\$500 per additional child

5th Payment	Due Monthly from Month Seven Until Adoptive Parents Travel	
	Orphanage/Foster Home Support	\$210/month
	Due with Fourth Payment, 14 Days Prior to Travel	
	Foreign Country Program Fee (2 nd Portion)	\$3,100 per additional child
	Post-Adoption Administration Fee	\$500 per additional child
Four post-adoption reports		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MLJ licensed state families • Non MLJ Licensed state families 	\$50 per report per additional child Varies by provider	

Families may choose to pursue the adoption of a subsequent child (or children) after the adoption of a first child is completed in-country. The family must submit a new dossier and will pay the following fees:

First Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

Second Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

3rd Payment	Due Upon Submission of New Dossier to <i>Ministère de l'Action Sociale et de la Solidarité Nationale</i>	
	Agency Fee (First Portion)	\$3,300
	Translations/Authentication/Shipping	\$3,000
4th Payment	Due Upon Acceptance of Additional Child Referral(s), per Child	
	Foreign Country Program Fees (First Portion)	\$6,115
	Six Months Orphanage/Foster Home Support	\$1,260
	IAAME Monitoring & Oversight Fee	\$500
	Due Monthly from Month Seven, per Child	
	Orphanage/Foster Home Support	\$210/month
5th Payment	Due 14 Days Prior to Travel, per Child	
	Foreign Country Program Fees (Second Portion)	\$3,100
	Post-Adoption Report Administration Fee	\$500
	Post-Adoption reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MLJ licensed state families • Non MLJ Licensed state families 	\$50 per report Varies by provider

Families will likely make a second trip to Burkina Faso to bring the additional child(ren) home, so they should expect additional travel costs.

Disclaimer: Please see page 4 and 5 for listing of 3rd party fees and additional fees.