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 mljadoptions.org

Ukraine Program Adoption Fees

Adoption Application \$395

**1st
Payment
\$4,100**

Due with Service Agreement to Begin the Adoption Process	
Agency Fee (1 st portion)	\$3,000
Home Study Review/Education	\$600
IAAME Monitoring & Oversight Fee per child* *See additional fees on page 8, 9 & 10.	\$500
Families residing in an MLJ licensed state will add \$1,625 for the home study.	

**2nd
Payment
\$1,000**

Due 30 Days after 1 st Payment	
Foreign Country Program Expenses (1 st Portion)	\$1,000
See Fees Paid Abroad on Page 4	

**3rd
Payment
\$2,900**

Due Upon Completion of Home Study Draft Usually about 2-4 months after the 1 st Payment	
Agency Fee (2 nd Portion)	\$2,250
Dossier Review	\$650

**4th
Payment
\$10,250**

Due at Issuance of Travel Date Usually about 3-5 months after dossier submission	
Foreign Country Program Expenses (3 rd Portion)	\$8,500
Post-Adoption Agency Services	\$1,250
Ukrainian Vulnerable Child Contribution	\$500
Families residing in an MLJ licensed state will add \$1,350 plus mileage for three post-adoption reports and visits.	
See Fees Paid Abroad on page 4.	

Fees paid to and through MLJ Adoptions \$18,645 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.

Effective date: 3/1/2019

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 submit the adoption application.

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

The agency fees are fees paid in the U.S. that cover MLJ's cost to arrange and support your 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 to safeguard protections for children and families. **If your family is approved in your home study to adopt more than one child, you will be invoiced an additional \$500 per child as part of your third payment, as IAAME is asking for an additional \$500 per child for monitoring and oversight.** If you adopt fewer children than the total approval number, any additional fees will be refunded.

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 \$900 to the fourth payment for two (2) post-adoption reports. 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.

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 \$300 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, costs and requirements are subject to change over the course of the adoption process.

Second & 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. A bank processing fee of 3% of the payment amount plus \$25 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.

The foreign fee breakdown for Ukraine is as follows:

Legalization/translation of dossier and submission to the State Department on Adoption and Children’s Rights	\$1,000	Foreign Service Provider
Donation to the child’s orphanage	\$1,000	Foreign Service Provider
Obtain child passport including attorney, administrative, transportation and passport fees	\$500	Foreign Service Provider
Obtain and translate all legal documents	\$1,000	Foreign Service Provider
Provide in country support to families serving as their family liaison	\$6,000	Foreign Service Provider

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 your home study provider	\$2,000 - \$4,000
USCIS Filing Fee (per each unrelated child)	\$775
Authentications paid to Secretary of State	\$55 average of CA, NY, IN & TX
Additional charges for services provided by MLJ	\$25 per document
Fingerprints per person paid to USCIS	\$85
U.S. Legal Services, if applicable Paid to an independent attorney	Varies
USCIS Application for extensions	\$325
Post-Adoption Reports in state of residence Paid to your home study provider	\$400 - \$600
Re-adoption/Adoption in state of residence	\$800 - \$1,500

These fees are estimates only and may change at any time. Additional expenses may include medical services, child’s passport, wiring fees and mailing of documents. The Ministry of Justice in Ukraine or the U.S. government may request additional information or documents which may require additional expense. If the prospective adoptive parents would like to request additional medical information for the adopted child, this will be an additional charge. 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 two to three trips of two adults and one is **estimated to be between \$5,500 and \$7,000**. These fees may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Airfare – 2 Adoptive Parents round trips	\$700- \$950 round trip per person, estimated
Airfare – Child One Way	\$500 - \$800
Accommodations	\$70 per night, estimated
Other regional expenses including meals	\$2,000 - \$3,000 per trip

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

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 review?

The fees paid towards dossier 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:

Review of home study update by Hague-accredited agency	\$150
Review of home study update by non-accredited agency	\$300
Education	\$150
Home Study Update/Addendum Translations	\$50, additional at \$15/page
Home Study Update/Addendum Shipping	\$40-\$100 (estimated)
Home Study Update/Addendum 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

Fourth Payment

POST-ADOPTION FEES PAID TO MLJ

What is the breakdown of the \$500 fee in the fourth payment?

Post-Adoption Report Administration Fee	\$1,000
Post-Adoption Refundable Deposit	\$100
Support Services/Facebook Support Group/Resources/Additional Services after Post-Adoption	\$150

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

Currently, MLJ requires three agency-completed reports, due at 1-, 12-, and 24-months after placement, and Ukraine requires annual self-reports until the child turns 18. 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 post-adoption reporting requirements of Ukraine and MLJ Adoptions.**

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 are fees paid abroad?

Families will receive an invoice in USDs for each portion of the foreign fees. Each invoice will include an Outgoing Wire Fee. The foreign country program fee will then be wired by MLJ to the staff in-country.

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 Ukraine?

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 \$2,500 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 SIBLING GROUPS AND SUBSEQUENT CHILDREN

Fees are for the adoption services for one child. It may be possible to adopt more than one child from Ukraine, including sibling groups or children who are unrelated. Not all sibling groups will live in the same orphanage or have their legal adoption completed in the same court. These fees do not include additional medical services, immigration or travel expenses.

All families approved by their home study to adopt more than one child:

First Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

Second Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

3rd Payment	Due Upon Completion of Home Study Draft	
	IAAME Monitoring & Oversight Fee	\$500 per additional child

This payment will remain in an escrow account. If the family is not matched with the number of children they were approved to adopt, the remaining funds will be returned to the family.

Fourth Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

Fifth Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

Families who pursue the adoption of a sibling group or unrelated children, when the children reside in the same orphanage and one court is possible for both (or all) children:

First Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

Second Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

Third Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

4th Payment	Due Upon Acceptance of Second Child Referral	
	Foreign Country Program Fee	\$3,500
	Due Upon Acceptance of Third or Subsequent Child(ren)	
	Foreign Country Program Fee	\$3,000

Fifth Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

Families who pursue the adoption of a sibling group or unrelated children, when the children reside in different orphanages and two courts in the same region are required:

First Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

Second Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

Third Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

4th
Payment

Due Upon Acceptance of Second Child Referral	
Foreign Country Program Fee	\$6,500
Due Upon Acceptance of Third or Subsequent Child(ren) (Still only two different courts in the same region)	
Foreign Country Program Fee	\$2,500

Fifth Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

All families who pursue the adoption of a sibling group or unrelated children

First Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

Second Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

Third Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

4th
Payment

Due Upon Receiving Referral	
Two Post-Adoption Reports	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MLJ Licensed State Families• Non MLJ Licensed State Families	\$50 per report Varies by provider

Fifth Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees

Appendix B: For Families Adopting Children with Special Needs

ADOPTIONS OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

These fees are limited to families who are pursuing a child designated to have special needs by the Ukrainian Central Authority. MLJ Adoptions cannot guarantee the placement of any specific child. Families who choose to pursue the adoption of a special needs child will pay the \$295 non-refundable Application Payment, but should they decide to move forward with an adoption, the Application Fee will be applied to their 1st Payment.

Families who choose to pursue the adoption of a child with special needs will pay the following fees:

Due with Service Agreement to Begin the Adoption Process		
1st Payment	Agency Fee	\$1,000
	Home Study Review/Education	\$600
	Dossier Review	\$500
	IAAME Monitoring & Oversight Fee	\$500
Families residing in an MLJ licensed state will add \$1,600 for the home study.		

Due 30 Days after 1st Payment		
2nd Payment	Foreign Country Program Expenses (1 st Portion)	\$1,000
	See Fees Paid Abroad on Page 4	

**Third Payment
No Applicable Agency Fees**

Due at Issuance of Travel Date		
4th Payment	Post-Adoption Agency Services	\$500
	Ukrainian Vulnerable Child Contribution	\$500
	Families residing in an MLJ licensed state will add \$800. See Post Adoption Fees on page 4.	

Paid In-Country		
5th Payment	Foreign Country Program Expenses (2 nd Portion)	\$8,500
	See Fees Paid Abroad on page 4.	

These fees are specific to families who become an MLJ Adoptions' family with a completed dossier; the determination of what constitutes a completed dossier is at the sole discretion of MLJ Adoptions.

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