



Post Adoption Services and Fees

All fees cover partial costs of rendering the following post adoption services to the requester of these services. New Life Adoptions (New Life) believes in providing excellent post adoption services and will not deny service based on inability to pay for requested service. If requesting a fee reduction for post adoption services, please submit a written statement indicating the amount you are able to pay.

An Application for Post Adoption Services will need to be completed and signed in front of a notary before any services with fees associated with them can begin. This application is needed to confirm your identity in order to keep full confidentiality for all parties of adoption.

STANDARD SERVICES (No fee charged)

- Providing any post adoption services within the first two years after placement
- Updating information for file (name change, new address, etc.)
- Passing on new medical information from birth family
- Connecting clients with similar adoption circumstances
- Offering resources and referrals
- Coordinating visits through New Life
- Forwarding/copying regular correspondence between parties
- General post adoption questions
- Checking file for stored correspondence
- Assistance with requesting an Original Birth Certificate from the Minnesota Department of Health

REQUESTING DOCUMENTS FROM FILE

- Receiving correspondence from file. – **\$25 Fee**
- Receiving documents from file (medical information and birth family history). – **\$25 Fee**

OBTAINING INFORMATION ON ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATE

- Adopted person 19 or older will be directed to the MN Department of Health
 - <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/osr/adoption.html#searches> (information)
 - <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/osr/affdisclose1A.pdf> (request form)
 - There is a small fee that will need to be sent along with the request form.

REQUESTING NON-IDENTIFYING BACKGROUND INFORMATION – \$50 Fee

Adopted adults or parents of a minor adopted child may request a summary of the social and medical background information regarding the adopted person's birth family. This summary is compiled from information located in the file at the time of placement. It may include information about the birth family such as physical descriptions, ethnic background, religious affiliation, schooling, talents, or hobbies. No identifying information about the birth family will be included in this summary.

REQUESTING UPDATED MEDICAL INFORMATION

This option is for when adoptive parents of a minor adopted child or an adopted adult would like to request medical information from one or both birth parents, but would not like to have personal contact. Birth parents can pass on updated medical information at no charge.

- **New Life has most current contact information - \$50 Fee:**
 - The party submits the specific information they are requesting (additional medical information, health history, etc.) to the post adoption worker.
 - The post adoption worker contacts the appropriate party, relays the request, acts as an intermediary, and provides support and counsel to the receiving party.
- **New Life does not have sufficient contact information – Additional \$50 Fee:**
 - If New Life does not have current information for the sought-out party and needs to do a full search for **an additional \$50**, the requesting party will be notified to see if they want to proceed prior to conducting the search.

RECONNECTING WITH OTHER PARTY

This service involves reconnecting parties who, in the past, have had an open adoption relationship to some degree.

- If we have updated contact information on file and contact has been within the last 5 years – **No Fee**
- If we have updated contact information on file and they have not had contact with other party for over 5 years – **\$25 Fee**
- If we have to search for updated contact information – **\$75 Fee or additional \$50 fee**

REQUESTING A SEARCH FOR ANOTHER PARTY

- **New Life has most current contact information – \$50 Fee:**
 - Connecting confidentially with the party being sought after in order to see if he/she is ready and willing to proceed with opening the adoption at this point.
 - If the requesting party has written a letter, New Life will forward it after connecting with the other party and provide limited counsel to both parties if needed. The initiating party is informed whether the letter has been passed on or put in the receiving party's file.
 - Contact information is shared with both parties in order for them to continue on their own.
 - Brief counsel is offered throughout the reunion process for both parties when New Life is assisting. This is helpful as emotions may be high and both parties have many questions.
 - This fee is paid per person we are searching for. If an adoptive family or an adopted adult is requesting to search for both birth parents, there will be an **additional \$50 fee**.
- **New Life does not have sufficient contact information – \$100 Fee:**
 - Searching for new contact information if information found in file is insufficient or out of date.
 - Connecting confidentially with the party being sought after in order to see if he/she is ready and willing to proceed with opening the adoption at this point.
 - If the requesting party has written a letter, New Life will forward it after connecting with the other party and provide limited counsel to both parties if

needed. The initiating party is informed whether the letter has been passed on or put in the receiving party's file.

- Contact information is shared with both parties in order for them to continue on their own.
- Brief counsel is offered throughout the reunion process for both parties when New Life is assisting. This is helpful as emotions may be high and both parties have many questions.
- This fee is paid per person we are searching for. If an adoptive family or an adopted adult is requesting to search for both birth parents, there will be an **additional \$100 fee**.

- **Reunion assistance requested – Additional \$50 Fee:**

- New Life provides a meeting place and a mediator for the first meeting.
- Brief counsel is offered throughout the reunion process for both parties when New Life is assisting. This is helpful as emotions may be high and both parties have many questions.
- If an additional face-to-face meeting is requested, a **\$50 fee will be added**.

BOTH PARTIES DESIRE COUNSELING, CONSULTATION, OR MEDIATION – \$100 Fee

- Process includes:

- Coordinating meeting with both parties.
- Receiving all necessary information from both parties prior to meeting.
- One face-to-face meeting with consultation with both parties present; one hour minimum.
- If an additional face-to-face meeting is requested, a **\$50 fee will be added**.
- **Note:** This is not therapy and does not substitute for therapy. If you need additional counseling, we can offer referrals to adoption competent therapists.

PLEASE NOTE: If your request is not listed above, please call the post adoption department at New Life Adoptions to help determine which fee (if any) applies.

Minnesota Statute 259.83 (subd. 5) allows for agencies to charge reasonable fees for Post Adoption services. For all Post Adoption services, payment must be received before the service is rendered except for additional fees that are charged as needed. New Life Adoptions charges the above fees in order to assist in covering costs for the services rendered. Vital services will not be denied. If necessary, contact New Life Adoptions' Post Adoption department for possible fee reductions based on income.