



## Forever Family Fund GUIDELINES

This designated account has been established to financially assist qualified Christian families within the State of Louisiana with a partial amount of their international, domestic or foster adoption expenses.

The fund will be administered by a committee of the FAMily Ministry of Trinity Baptist Church.

1. To begin the application process, applicants **MUST** have a completed, certified, home study that has been approved by a qualified agency or licensed professional in the state of Louisiana. A photocopy of which must be attached to the application for a family adopting internationally or domestically.
2. Applicants adopting internationally or domestically must be associated with a licensed adoption agency or attorney. You will be asked to provide all contact information.
3. Applicants with foster to adopt must be a certified foster family with the Department of Children & Family Services (DCFS). You will be asked to provide contact information of your appointed social worker.
4. Applicants must be a Bible-believing, Christian family whose daily life models that of Jesus Christ and may be either a married couple or single individual.
5. Applicants must be a legal US citizen and a resident of the State of Louisiana. A copy of each applicant's driver's license should be attached to the application.
6. There is no income requirement.
7. Applicants must be active members of their church. Application must include a written reference letter from your pastor, Sunday school teacher or other church leader, on church letterhead, indicating their support of your adoption.
8. Applicants will be required to submit with application their written salvation testimony and an adoption testimony of how God led them to adopt.

9. The FAMily ministry grant committee meets four times a year, during the last week of each quarter, to award adoption grants. Deadlines for receiving grant applications each quarter are: January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15. Applications must be received by these dates to be considered for the quarter. Applicants will be notified via phone or email in a timely manner following the determination.
10. Grant amounts are determined by the grant committee based upon available amounts of money in the fund and number of applications received. Grants awarded, per child, may be up to, but will not exceed, \$5000 for International adoptions; \$2500 for domestic adoptions; \$500 for foster to adopt that has been subsidized by the State, and \$1500 for foster to adopt that was not subsidized by the State. The decision to award or deny a grant to the adoptive parent(s), and the designated amount of the grant shall be determined by the sole discretion of the FAMily ministry committee based on the information submitted with the application.
11. Families adopting internationally or domestically do not need to be matched in order to apply, however any grant money awarded shall not be dispersed until after placement. Grants for these applicants shall be paid directly to the adoption agency or attorney at the time of placement unless proof is shown that there are no outstanding fees due.
12. Families adopting through foster to adopt do not need to have a placement in order to apply, however any grant money awarded shall not be dispersed until after placement and final adoption decree has been awarded. Grants for these applicants may be paid directly to the family.
13. The FAMily Ministry reserves the right to contact applicants by phone to clarify any information provided in the application or to conduct a telephone interview.
14. Families may apply up to six (6) months following the finalization of their adoption.