

5101:2-44-14

**State adoption assistance loan fund.**

- (A) The state adoption assistance loan fund provides loans to prospective adoptive parents residing in Ohio to cover adoption expenses incurred by, or on behalf of, a prospective adoptive parent and for which the prospective adoptive parent carries the ultimate liability for payment. This rule does not apply to step-parent adoptions.
- (B) The state adoption assistance loan fund will be administered through a financial institution or institutions approved by the Ohio department of job and family services (ODJFS).
- (C) If the child being adopted resides in Ohio, the prospective adoptive parents may receive up to three thousand dollars from the state adoption assistance loan fund.
- (D) If the child being adopted does not reside in Ohio, the prospective adoptive parents may receive up to two thousand dollars from the state adoption assistance loan fund.
- (E) The public children services agency (PCSA), private child placing agency (PCPA) or private non-custodial agency (PNA) shall inform prospective adoptive parents who inquire about adoption services through the agency that the state adoption assistance loan is available.
- (F) In order to be eligible for a state adoption assistance loan, a prospective adoptive parent shall meet the following requirements at the time of application:
- (1) Have one of the following approved homestudies:
    - (a) A JFS 01673 "Assessment for Child Placement (Homestudy)" (rev. 08/2005) or equivalent for children adopted from another state.
    - (b) A JFS 01692 "Application for Adoption of a Foster Child" (rev. 06/2009).
    - (c) A copy of a homestudy narrative report in the case of an international adoption.
  - (2) Have been matched with an identified child who is legally free for adoption and who will be adopted prior to their eighteenth birthday.
  - (3) Have applied for the state adoption assistance loan prior to finalization of the adoption.
- (G) In addition to the requirements outlined in paragraph (F) of this rule, a prospective adoptive parent must also meet the requirements of the financial institution administering the state adoption assistance loan fund.
- (H) If a prospective adoptive parent is interested in applying for a state adoption assistance loan, the PCSA, PCPA or PNA shall provide the prospective adoptive

parent with documentation, on agency letterhead, indicating the requirements outlined in paragraph (F) of this rule have been met.

(I) In the case of a private or an international adoption, the prospective adoptive parent shall obtain the documentation outlined in paragraph (F) from the agency which completed their homestudy.

(J) Once the prospective adoptive parent has obtained the required documentation from the PCSA, PCPA or PNA, the prospective adoptive parent shall:

(1) Provide the documentation to the financial institution.

(2) Complete the financial institution's application for the state adoption assistance loan.

(K) The state adoption assistance loan shall be used for any of the following expenses related to the adoption of the child:

(1) Physician expenses incurred on behalf of the birth mother or child in connection with prenatal care, delivery, and confinement prior to or following the child's birth.

(2) Hospital or other medical facility expenses incurred on behalf of the birth mother or child in connection with the child's birth.

(3) Expenses charged by the attorney arranging the adoption for providing legal services in connection with the placement and adoption, including expenses incurred by the attorney pursuant to sections 3107.031, 3107.032, 3107.081, 3107.082, 3107.09, 3107.101, and 3107.12 of the Revised Code.

(4) Expenses charged by the agency arranging the adoption for providing services in connection with the permanent surrender and adoption, including the agency's application fee and the expenses incurred by the agency pursuant to sections 3107.031, 3107.032, 3107.09, 3107.101, 3107.12, 5103.151, and 5103.152 of the Revised Code.

(5) Temporary costs of routine maintenance and medical care for a child required under section 5103.16 of the Revised Code if the person seeking to adopt the child refuses to accept placement of the child.

(6) Guardian ad litem fees incurred on behalf of the child in any court proceedings.

(7) Foster care expenses incurred in connection with any temporary care and maintenance of the child.

(8) Court expenses incurred in connection with the child's permanent surrender, placement, and adoption.

- (9) Living expenses not exceeding three thousand dollars for the birth mother that are incurred during pregnancy through the sixtieth day after the date the child is born and paid by the petitioner to the birth mother through the attorney or agency arranging the child's adoption.
- (10) Health and psychological examinations.
- (11) Supervision of the placement prior to the final decree of adoption.
- (12) Reasonable costs of transportation, lodging and food for the child and/or the adoptive parents when necessary to complete the placement or adoption process.
- (13) Any other expense related to adopting the child from the public welfare system.

Effective:

R.C. 119.032 review dates:

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Certification

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Date

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Statutory Authority:	3107.018, 5101.143
Rule Amplifies:	3107.018, 5101.143