



Florida Home Studies and Adoption, Inc.

5934 Palmer Blvd., Sarasota, FL 34232

941-342-8189

www.flhomestudies.com

The Agency

Florida Home Studies and Adoption, Inc. (**FHSA**) is a non-profit agency, licensed by the State of Florida Department of Children and Families as a child-placing agency (License # 010801). We have a domestic adoption program and programs for international adoption in Cambodia (*currently not open to US citizens*), China, Korea, Nepal, Taiwan, Ukraine, and Vietnam.

FHSA provides adoption services to families living in all 50 states and abroad.

Domestic Program Coordinators

FHSA has experienced and well-trained coordinators to assist birth parents and adoptive families with all aspects of domestic adoption. The coordinator will be with you every step of the process to counsel, educate, and assist with the entire adoption. We will ensure your adoption is done ethically and in accordance with applicable state law. Whether you are a birth parent or an adoptive parent, **FHSA** will provide you with personalized, professional attention.

International Program Coordinators



If you are adopting internationally, you are required to compile and submit a dossier. A dossier is a packet of required documentation. The contents of which and the manner of collection will vary depending upon the country from which you are adopting. **FHSA** has experienced Program Coordinators who will guide your family through the paperwork process, from start to finish, to ensure that your dossier is prepared in accordance with the standards and guidelines established by your child's country. As questions arise, your Program Coordinator will be there to provide answers and offer expert advice. The staff at **FHSA** makes your family's concerns our first priority.

The Home Study

Whether you choose to adopt domestically or internationally, you will be required to have a completed home study. While our agency currently offers domestic and a variety of international adoption programs, we also have extensive experience in providing home study services separate and apart from our adoption programs. The home study staff at **FHSA** will work in conjunction with the agency of your choice to ensure that all home study requirements are met.



Because home studies for international adoption are complex, our experienced social workers will assist you in obtaining all the necessary approvals from the State of Florida, Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) and your child's country of birth. **FHSA** has experience with assisting families who have adopted children from Cambodia, China, Guatemala, India, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Nepal, Romania, Russia, Thailand, Ukraine, United States, Vietnam, and many more.

The Home Study Staff

FHSA has an experienced staff of home study providers located throughout the state of Florida. Many of our staff are adoptive parents themselves, and consequently, are sensitive to the issues you may encounter as an adoptive parent.

Home Study Fees

Home Study	\$1,300
Post Adoption/ Placement Report (each)	\$250
Home Study Update	\$500
Second Home Study	\$1,000
Mileage (based on IRS Rate)	



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Parent Education

Families using **FHSA** for their Home Study and/or Adoption will be required to do ten hours of parent education consisting of on-line training and required reading.

Post Adoption / Placement

As an adoptive family, you will be required by your agency and the country you are adopting from to complete post adoption/ placement reports with your social worker when you return home. A post adoption/ placement report is a report documenting how your child is acclimating to the new family. Your social worker will be there to ensure the wellbeing of the child and to offer education and support. The number of reports, when they are required and how they are written is determined by the country and your agency.



Please note for international adoption, post adoption reports are vital. They are mandated by the foreign government in order to continue allowing children to be adopted out of their country.

Family Guidelines

FHSA strives to do what is in the best interest of families and children. Therefore, we review all families on a case by case basis, always keeping in mind what is best for the child. Following are the guidelines **FHSA** uses in considering the acceptance of a family.

- ◆ Parents should be 55 years old or younger
- ◆ There should be no more than 5 children living in the home
- ◆ Parents should wait at least 1 year between adoptions

- ◆ Parents should not adopt out of birth order
- ◆ Parents should not adopt two unrelated children at the same time.

Some exceptions do apply. Please contact us for more information.

Please note each country has their own specific requirements for eligibility; please see the country pages for details.

References

The following families have worked with **FHSA** during their home study and/or adoption journey. They have given permission to be listed here as references for our agency. Please feel free to contact any of these families about their experience with **FHSA**, our services and their adoption journey.

"FHSA is a wonderful family of caring individuals . . . staff and clients. I can't imagine taking this journey of the heart with anyone else!" Carolyn, Ohio (beezerbay@aol.com)

"The entire staff at FHSA was amazing. They were so caring and compassionate. They were there for us and with us every step of the way, both here and in Guatemala." David & Amy, Georgia (amyh615@aol.com)

"With God's help, Florida Homes Studies came through when I thought all hope was lost. Now I have the most precious gift I could have ever dreamed of." Jennifer, Florida (jenjen1822@aol.com)

"The entire experience with FHSA was awesome. We were made to feel very comfortable during the home study and we were guided through the entire 'paper pregnancy' with expertise and care. Everyone we came into contact with seemed very genuine. I highly recommend this agency to anyone." Sandy and Lu, Florida (sbri151873@comcast.net)

"FHSA was able to do what no doctor could do - to help us become parents. We are forever grateful." Rick and Colleen, Florida (cjako@tampabay.rr.com)

Additional references are available on our website.

Last Updated: 8/20/2008