



2015 Fee Agreement: Bulgaria

Client(s): _____ Date: _____

This Fee Agreement between Adoption STAR, Inc., and the above named Client(s), serves as a written schedule of expected total fees and estimated expenses and an explanation of the conditions under which fees and expenses may be charged waived, reduced, or refunded; and when or how the fees and expenses must be paid. The Client(s) should not enter into this Agreement unless the Client(s) will have financial resources adequate to cover the Client(s)' expected and unexpected expenses such as an unexpected longer in-country stay or additional overseas trips.

Adoption STAR does not customarily charge additional fees and expenses beyond those disclosed in this agreement, and where it does is subject to the limitations as disclosed in this Agreement in accordance with 22 CFR 96.40(g).

This Agreement should be acknowledged and returned to Adoption STAR. Once the first installment of the Agency Service Fee is received, Adoption STAR will undertake services on behalf of the Client(s). All service fee payments must be made by certified check. Returned checks or delayed payments will result in an immediate halt to your adoption, delay in the projected time line, and possible termination. Any dishonored check will subject the Client to a \$35 processing fee and any other cost charged by Adoption STAR's lending institution.

The Client is directed to make a photocopy of the executed agreement for their personal records, and to return the original executed agreement to Adoption STAR.

Primary Client (signature)

Date

Secondary Client (signature)

Date

**DESCRIPTION OF FEES AND EXPENSES FOR
THE BULGARIA ADOPTION PROGRAM**

<p>Adoption STAR International Application Fee Non-Refundable Due Upon Application</p>	<p>The international application fee reflects the administrative cost associated with processing the application and is non-refundable. The Application is good for one year. The annual renewal fee is \$30. Classification: Adoption Expense in the United States (96.40(b))</p>	<p>\$450 Paid Online</p>
<p>Adoption STAR Placement Service Fee Paid in Three Equal Installments (1) Due after Home Study is approved/received \$6,000; (2) Due upon dossier submission for review \$3,000. (3) Due upon accepting a referral \$3,000.</p>	<p>This fee is assessed for services rendered in (1) coordinating the necessary criminal background checks mandated by law for adoptive parents and providing all necessary disclosures to a Client, (2) rendering a decision to accept or decline to accept a prospective adoptive parent(s) into the program after review of their home study and entering into a supervised provider agreement with the selected and approved home study agency, (3) advising the Client regarding the necessary components of the home study required by the (Country) government, (4) reviewing that Hague educational requirements have been met and providing direction on avenues for obtaining appropriate instruction, (5) counseling on the necessary documents required by USCIS, (6) assistance in preparation of necessary documents for the dossier and guidance on obtaining authentication and/or an apostille of those documents, (7) reviewing the final dossier before submission to sending country for technical accuracy, (8) presentation of a translated referral with all available medical and social history supplied to the Client, (9) travel preparation and support, (10) ensuring the necessary USCIS cable is transmitted to appropriate visa section for ease of obtaining an exit visa, (11) coordinating the necessary medical exam in country necessary to exit country for USCIS immigrant processing, (12) and communication with the US State Department, US embassy in sending country, throughout the adoption process. Classification: Adoption Expense in the United States (96.40(b))</p>	<p>\$12,000 Payable by certified check</p>
<p>Mailing Fee Due with first installment of agency service fee</p>	<p>Shipping and tracking of legal documents to the Client and to related entities, locally and internationally. Additional mailing fees may apply. Classification: Adoption Expense in the United States (96.40(b))</p>	<p>\$300 Payable by check</p>

<p>International Service Fee</p> <p>Due in Four Installments</p>	<p>This fee is assessed by the in country team of foreign providers: translators, attorneys and administrative support who are responsible for ensuring that the adoptive child meets the definition of orphan by both sending country and US definitions, procuring medical and social information on the orphan from the Central Authority and other government approved bodies, submission of the dossier through the Central Authority and the various government offices related to an international adoption, and providing legal and interpretation services for the Client during the length of the adoption process, including during the sending country court proceedings. Preparation of documents prior to embassy appointment, securing all appointments on behalf of the adoptive parents, to include a scheduled court date, appointment to obtain the child's new birth certificate and adoption decree, appointment to obtain the child's passport, medical appointments and embassy interviews.</p>	<p>6600 Euro (Dreams Foundation)</p> <p>or</p> <p>8000 Euro (St. Konstantin & Elena)</p>
<p>See *breakdown</p>	<p>Adoption STAR works with both The DREAMS Foundation and St. Konstantin & Elena Foundation. Prospective Adoptive parents can review files through either facilitator and the applicable fee will be applied when an official match is made.</p>	<p>Payable by certified check</p>
	<p><u>*Breakdown DREAMS Foundation:</u></p>	
	<p>(1) 1600 Euro; for traditional program at submission of Dossier; for waiting child @ signing contract (2) 3000 Euro; for traditional program at Acceptance of Referral; for waiting child @ dossier submission (3) Decision to Adopt Child 1000 Euro; * (4) Upon entry of Decree Granting Adoption 1000 Euro.</p>	
	<p><u>Breakdown for St. Konstantin & Elena:</u></p>	
	<p>(1) Submission of Dossier 3200 Euro; (2) Acceptance of Referral 3200 Euro; * (4) Upon entry of Decree Granting Adoption 1600 Euro. Classification: Foreign Country Program Expenses and Translation and Document Expenses (96.40(b)(3) and (5)).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Additional fees may apply for sibling group adoption (see Foundation specific contract)</i> • <i>Fee may be reduced to 1000 Euro if adopting child with special needs.</i> 	

Bank Transfer Fee	This expense is associated with transferring the international fee to sending country.	\$140
Due with first installment of agency service fee	Classification: Adoption Expense in the United States (96.40(b))	Payable by check
Post Placement Fee Retainer	This fee is refundable after the final post placement report is submitted and the third annual report is completed.	\$500
To be paid after first visit to Bulgaria	Hague Classification: Post Placement and Post Adoption Support (96.40(b)(7))	Payable by check
Adoption STAR Placement Service Fee will be reduced by half for second child.	Siblings may be adopted at the same time. The International Service Fee remains the same per child.	Payable by certified check
THE FOLLOWING FEES ARE BASED ON YOUR GEOGRAPHICAL AREA. NOT ALL FEES APPLY TO YOU.		
Home Study Fee* Non-Refundable	This fee is for NYS, FL or OH residents ONLY. \$1525 for those who live within the counties of Western New York (Alleghany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Orleans, Niagara, Wyoming, Monroe, Wayne, Livingston & Ontario), within the South Florida counties (Broward, Dade and Palm Beach) or within the Ohio Southwest Region (Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Highland, and Warren) to be paid at the initial consultation appointment.	\$1525 or \$1725
Due Prior to Home study Services	\$1725** for those who live outside of the geographic area listed above. This fee will be honored for one year from the date this agreement is received. <i>* Payment of this fee does not guarantee approval for adoption or placement of a child.</i> <i>**\$200 will be deducted if Client travels to the agency for at least one meeting.</i>	Payable by check
For NY, FL & OH residents only		

For non-NY, FL or OH residents	<p>If you reside outside of NYS, FL, or OH, the Home Study Fee will be assessed by the home study agency you select, after Adoption STAR's approval of its capability to be a supervised provider. Fee for this service is \$500. Additionally, the fee for educational classes for residents outside of NY, FL or OH is \$720.</p> <p>Hague Classification: Home study (96.40(b)(1))</p>	<p>\$500</p> <p>\$720</p>
Expedited Home Study*	<p>Under certain circumstances, The Agency may be able to complete an expedited home study for an <i>additional</i> fee of \$550. Candidates for this service are families who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adopting (or have already adopted and are now immigrating) an identified child -At risk for becoming ineligible for a particular country's adoption program if they wait too long. <p><i>*Availability of this service will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Payment of this fee does not guarantee approval for adoption or placement of a child. It also does not guarantee meeting a deadline as several factors are out of The Agency's control such as the time frame to receive clearances, medicals, references, etc., as well as any other paperwork generated by the client. The client understands that there are also legal and educational requirements involved in the home study that cannot be avoided and could delay the final approval of the home study.</i></p>	<p>\$550</p> <p>Payable by check</p>
<p>Home Study Update Fee Non-Refundable</p> <p>Prior to Home Study Update Services</p>	<p>This fee is due if Adoption STAR is your home study agency. Home study updates are required when home study paperwork expires, usually 12 months after the completion of the original study or depending upon the immigration and country requirements. This fee will be honored for one year from the date this agreement is received.</p> <p>If you reside outside of NYS, FL or OH, the Home Study Update Fee will be assessed by the home study agency you select.</p> <p>Hague Classification: Home study (96.40(b)(1))</p>	<p>\$950</p> <p>Payable by check</p>

<p>Post Placement Administration and Support Fee Non-Refundable</p> <p>To be paid after first visit to Bulgaria</p>	<p>This fee is due if you reside <u>outside</u> of NYS, FL or OH.</p> <p>This fee includes the administrative costs associated with tracking compliance and completion of post placement reports as required by foreign providers in sending country, collection of reports from the Client’s home study agency, translation and certification of reports, and forwarding/shipment of those reports to appropriate authorities in the sending country. In addition, each post placement report is reviewed by a qualified social worker. This review and follow up allows an assessment of adjustment of the family and child, and to identify issues, which may warrant special services or intervention. This fee will be honored for one year from the date this agreement is received.</p> <p>Hague Classification: Adoption Expense in the United States (96.40(b)(2))</p>	<p>\$750</p> <p>Payable by check</p>
<p>Post Placement Fee and Post Placement Administration Fee*</p> <p>Non-Refundable</p> <p>To be paid after first visit to Bulgaria</p>	<p>This fee is for NYS, FL and OH residents ONLY. If you reside outside of NYS, FL or OH, your post placement fee will be paid directly to your home study agency and they determine their own fee scale.</p> <p>\$1670 includes 4 supervisory visits** (as required in Bulgaria) for those who reside within the counties of Western New York (Alleghany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Orleans, Niagara, Wyoming, Monroe, Wayne, Livingston & Ontario), within the South Florida counties (Broward, Dade and Palm Beach) or within the Ohio Southwest Region (Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Highland, and Warren.) Additional visits \$375/per visit.</p> <p>\$2070 includes 4 visits** (as required in Bulgaria) for those who reside in New York State, Florida and Ohio but outside the geographic area listed above. Additional visits \$375/per visit.</p> <p><u>Sibling Group Adoption:</u> \$275/report per additional child will be added to the Post Placement fee.</p> <p>This fee will be honored for one year from the date this agreement is received.</p> <p><i>* Each report is reviewed by a qualified social worker. This review and follow up allows an assessment of adjustment of the family and child, and to identify issues, which may warrant special services or intervention. A portion of this fee is for administrative and processing costs including, but not limited to: Ensuring compliance and completion of post placement reports as required, collection of reports, and forwarding/mailing of those reports to appropriate authorities</i></p>	<p>\$1670 or \$2070</p> <p>Payable by check</p>

and continued contact and correspondence with involved attorneys/agencies; actual expenses/disbursements may include, but not limited to: postage, federal express charges, copying, faxing, long distance charges and incoming toll free calls, etc. The post placement administration fee is \$350 and is added on to the total post placement fee.

*** Additional supervisory visits may be required based on state and country requirements as well as family need and agency recommendation.*

Hague Classification: Post Placement and Post Adoption Support (96.40(b)(7))

Post Adoption Support	<p>\$550 due at time of child placement or slightly before. This fee will assist Adoption STAR as it provides a wide-range of post adoption support to include support groups for adoptive families, adoptees, etc. In addition this fee will include any consultation, telephone and in-person support, counseling, referrals and assistance for adoptive families <u>one year</u> after placement. This fee includes general postage, copying and telephone charges.</p>	<p>\$550 Payable by check</p>
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The Client can expect **additional fees** associated with completing an adoption from sending country set forth below and in addition to the fees above listed which are not paid directly to Adoption STAR or a Foreign Service provider.

- A. To the extent Adoption STAR does not perform home study reports or post placement report monitoring (outside of what is above listed as an independent assessment) an additional fee will be charged by a third party service provider.
- B. The cost of obtaining educational classes relating to international adoption. These classes may or may not be provided by the home study agency selected by the Client. Local support groups and online resources provide many of these classes for a nominal fee. A listing of upcoming community classes and on line resources will be provided to the Client on an ongoing basis throughout the process.
- C. The cost of obtaining USCIS I-800A is presently \$720.00.(An \$85 fee for biometrics is required for the applicant - and spouse, if any. Additionally, an \$85 fee for biometrics is required for each person 18 years of age or older who is living with the applicant. See form instructions for additional details.) Government fees are subject to change and the Client is responsible for any such increase or change in fees related to requirements set forth by USCIS.
- D. I-824 Request For Action on an Approved Application, i.e. change of cable destinations, country choice, status change of applicant, etc. \$405.00. Government fees are subject to change and the Client is responsible for any such increase or change in fees related to requirements set forth by USCIS.
- E. The cost of obtaining the child’s U.S. visa which is currently estimated at \$230 for application and issuance. Government fees are subject to change and the Client is responsible for any such increase or change in fees related to requirements set forth by USCIS.

- F. The fees associated with obtaining USCIS photographs, and updated passports for travel. Government fees are subject to change and the Client is responsible for any such increase or change in fees related to requirements set forth by USCIS.
- G. The fees associated with required visa physical exam at the clinic nominated by the US Embassy in Sofia – 50-60 Bulgarian Leva/per child for exam, 120 USD per child for the blood TB, any kind of additional vaccinations at the same clinic - vary between 10 and 20 USD per shot. (second trip)
- H. N-600 Application for child's Certificate of Citizenship upon return home on an IR-3 visa or after the adoption is finalized in the child's state of residence if the child entered the US under a different visa type (IR4) \$550.00. Government fees are subject to change and the Client is responsible for any such increase or change in fees related to requirements set forth by USCIS.
- I. Round Trip adult international airfare to sending country estimated at \$1,000+/- per adult based on season, notice of travel and class of service with flexible change dates. The return ticket for a child two and under is estimated at 10% of adult full fare ticket. This fare is for a lap ticket only and no seat assignment is issued. A return ticket for a child over the age of two is considered a full fare adult ticket and the child is issued a seat assignment.
- J. Food during the Client's in country stay is estimated at \$115 – \$155 per diem. Overnight accommodations are estimated at \$185 per night.
- K. Optional shopping and sight seeing while in sending country is the Client responsibility.
- L. Departure tax is applicable which is approximately \$20 per person.
- M. Any voluntary donation made to the orphanage. To the extent Client makes a donation directly to a third party, such as an orphanage, Adoption STAR is unable to provide a charitable contribution record for income tax purposes of obtaining 501(c)(3) status with the IRS. If the donation is paid directly to Adoption STAR toward an orphanage relief project, Adoption STAR would be able to provide such documentation, pending 501(c)(3) designations. In no event will this donation be allowed if it is meant to influence a placement decision and is strictly forbidden. Donations do not affect the outcome of an adoption.
- N. State required police clearances (varies by state).
- O. Translation, notarization, apostille, and authentications of dossier and other documents; as well as couriers, overnight postage charges and other expediting fees are the responsibility of the Client.
- P. Domestic attorney fees and costs in connection with adoption, re-adoption and naturalization.

Additional fees and expenses which may apply depending on the circumstances are as follows:

- Additional travel expenses with guest beyond two adults beyond what is estimated herein.
- Home study fee, post placement service and educational requirements depend on the fee charged by the licensed agency you choose to perform the service.
- Fees and expenses incurred by necessary post-placement disruption services or removal of the child from the Client's home as dictated by the best interests of the child.

Fee information is intended to be as complete and accurate as possible; however **it is an estimate only, and is subject to change. While every effort has been made to accurately predict fees, it is possible that there may be some modification of fees in the placing country, or in travel, over which Adoption STAR has no control.** Adoption STAR does not customarily charge additional fees and

expenses beyond those disclosed in this Fee Agreement as a matter of policy. In the event that unforeseen additional fees and expenses are incurred in the Convention country, Adoption STAR will disclose the fees in writing to the Prospective Adoptive Parent(s), obtain the specific consent of the Prospective Adoptive Parent(s) prior to expending any funds in excess of \$1,000 for which Adoption STAR will hold the Prospective Adoptive Parent(s) responsible. However, you are put on notice as the Prospective Adoptive Parent(s), that to decline to pay a necessary sending country increased expense, could possibly terminate or delay the adoption.

You as the Prospective Adoptive Parent(s), may waive the requirement of notice and consent of this fee increase, by providing your signature and date below.

I waive the notice and consent regarding fee increases _____

I do not waive the notice and consent regarding fee increases _____

REFUND POLICY

The Adoption STAR Agency Service Fee, the International Service Fee, and any additional fee(s) are considered earned when specific services are provided to the Client, on its behalf, and are non-refundable once a specific service has been provided in relation to that component of the fee.

Moreover, the International Service Fee and any other foreign services fees paid by the Client will be held in escrow by Adoption STAR pending the service being provided and earned by the Supervised

Provider. Moreover, Adoption STAR shall, if possible by the rules of the sending country, transfer all Client money by international western union wire or bank transfer to foreign supervised provider if possible. There may be additional fees for wires and bank transfers.

Should the Client withdraw from the program or be terminated by Adoption STAR for violation of their obligations under the Service Agreement or because of a sending country change in policy, the Client will receive a refund of the unexpended portion of its Adoption STAR Agency Service Fee. No commitment can be made regarding reimbursement of the International Service Fee if already released from Adoption STAR's escrow account to the international providers. The fee agreement lists what fees are non-refundable upon receipt. Other fees earned to date, will be non-refundable according to this schedule.

When Fees Are Considered Earned and Non-Refundable:

A. Agency Service Fee (\$12,000)

- a. \$3,000 Upon providing dossier specific document templates and consultation
- b. \$3,000 Upon review and edit of home study specific to country and program
- c. \$3,000 Upon dossier submission to Adoption STAR for review
- d. \$3,000 Upon Client written referral acceptance

B. International Service Fee (8000 EURO with Elena & St. Konstantin Foundation)

- a. 3200 EURO Upon submission of dossier to Bulgaria
- b. 3200 EURO* Client's written acceptance of referral. Non-transferable to subsequent referral in the event referral is terminated or declined.
- c. 1600 EURO Upon entry of court date to grant adoption
**fee may be reduced to 1000 EURO if adopting child with special needs*

International Service Fee (6600 Euro with DREAMS Foundation)

- a. 1600 EURO Upon submission of dossier to Bulgaria
- b. 3000 EURO* Client's written acceptance of referral. Non-transferable to subsequent referral in the event referral is terminated or declined.

- c. 1000 EURO Upon decision to adopt child.
- d. 1000 EURO Upon entry of court date to grant adoption

C. Express Mailing Fee (\$300) and Bank Transfer Fee (\$140)

- a. To the extent express mailing expenses and bank transfer fees have not been incurred, this fee will be returned should a Client withdraw from the program.

Program Transfers/Withdrawals. If the Client elects with Adoption STAR’s consent to transfer from one program into another after the Client’s dossier has been submitted, the Client will be responsible for all international fees and expenses incurred on the Client’s behalf until the Client transfers out of the original program. The Client will have to pay additional international fee(s) and Adoption STAR may require an additional Adoption STAR Service Fee upon transfer between programs. **Dossiers are submitted to a foreign government and we cannot guarantee the return of the Client dossier and a new dossier may be necessary to be developed at the Client’s expense.**

Loss of assigned referral. Fees associated with acceptance of assigned referral are non-refundable and non-transferable to subsequent referrals.

Miscellaneous. If any portion of this Agreement is found to be illegal, invalid, or unenforceable, all remaining portions hereof shall, nevertheless, remain valid and binding on the parties hereto. Paragraph headings are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of this Agreement. This Agreement and the legal relations between the parties hereto shall be governed by the laws of New York, Florida and Ohio.

Agreement - By signing this form, I/we acknowledge that payment of any fee to The Agency does not guarantee that a child will be placed with me/us. I/We have read all sections of the Fee Description and Agreement and agree to pay all fees when due. By signing this document, it is also acknowledged that I/we have the financial ability/resources to adopt. I/We understand this Fee Agreement and have made/kept a copy for my/our records.

Please sign, date and return all pages of this Agreement to Adoption STAR.

The Client(s) and Adoption STAR have read and signed this Agreement on this _____ day of _____, 2_____

Primary Client (signature)

Date

Secondary Client (signature)

Date

ADOPTION STAR, INC.

By: _____
Agency Representative