



ADOPTION REIMBURSEMENT FOR ACTIVE DUTY PARENTS



Eligible active duty service members may be reimbursed for qualifying expenses for adoption of children under the age of 18.

What amount will I be eligible to receive as reimbursement for adoption?

The adoption benefit is a maximum of \$2,000 per child for qualifying expenses related to adoption. There is a maximum of \$5,000 each calendar year for multiple adoptions.

Who is Eligible?

Married and single service members who have been on active duty continuously for 180 days are eligible for qualifying adoption expenses. If service members are married, only one parent may be reimbursed for the expenses related to the same child. There are other limitations, such as the adoption must be finalized while on active duty. Please check the [DFAS Adoption Reimbursement page](#), which has an e-mail link at the bottom if you have additional questions about how to submit your claim for reimbursement.

I'm a Reservist, Am I Eligible For Adoption Reimbursement?

Yes, if you were on active duty military orders. Reserve and National Guard members must provide a copy of their active duty military orders in order to document the period of active duty and the finalization of the adoption while in active duty status.

What is a Qualifying Adoption?

The child must be under the age of 18 and the adoption must be arranged by a qualified adoption agency. Stepchild adoptions are eligible for reimbursement. The adoption can be foreign or domestic, and you cannot claim reimbursement until after the adoption is finalized. Please check [DoDI 1341.09](#) for a specific list of requirements.

What is a Qualifying Adoption Expense?

Reasonable and necessary expenses for the legal adoption of a child under 18 include: public and private agency fees (local or international), placement, counseling fees, and legal fees. Medical expenses and physical examinations for the biological mother of the child to be adopted and the child prior to the adoption. When required, temporary foster care charges incurred before the adoption is finalized may be covered also.

What Expenses Are Not Covered?

Travel expenses incurred by the adopting parent, basic needs of the child, and adoptions that are in violation of federal, state, or local law.

How is a Request for Reimbursement for Adoption Expenses Submitted?

Service members must submit a DD Form 2675, Reimbursement for Adoption Expenses, and any substantiation documents to the Defense Finance and Accounting Center Cleveland Center prior to discharge from active duty. A separate form is required for each qualifying child. The reimbursement request is due not later than two years after the completion of the adoption (exceptions can be made if deployments impede the ability to file timely). Members may request a voluntary extension of assignment to complete the adoption process.

Is Additional Leave Granted for Adoption?

Service members may take up to 21 days of non-chargeable leave in conjunction with a qualifying adoption per [DoD Instruction 1327.06](#).

Are Adopted Children Covered by Tricare?

An adopted child is eligible for Tricare after they are enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS).

Do you need more information? Please contact your nearest Legal Assistance Office for further help.



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