

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON, INC.**

Eligibility Requirements for Adoptive Parents For Catholic Charities

**INTERNATIONAL, INTERSTATE & PARENTAL PLACEMENT PROGRAMS**

RESIDENCE: The applicant(s) must reside in Virginia.

AGE: Criteria such as age are considered on a case by case basis, considering health of both applicants and requirements of the placing agency.

MARRIAGE: If married, the couple must have been married for at least two years. (Some sources may have other requirements, e.g. programs with Baltimore Associated Catholic Charities require a three year marriage).

HEALTH: The applicant(s) (and their child if there is one) must be in good mental and physical health with normal life expectancy, as determined by the applicant (s) physician. A 'disability' within the meaning of Catholic Charities' nondiscrimination policies does not disqualify a prospective adoptive or foster parent with normal life expectancy from adopting or fostering a child or children. Examples of such disabilities include long-term physical conditions such as diabetes, HIV-positive status and AIDS, heart disease, cancer in long-term remission, etc. (Some placing agencies may have other requirements in regard to health issues)

INCOME: The applicant's income, life insurance and savings must be adequate to meet adoption costs and a child's needs. Our recommendation for life insurance is \$100,000 for each adoptive parent.

HOMESTUDY: In addition to the above requirements the couple must have completed an adoption home study which has been approved by CCDA's Adoption Department before a child can be placed. (In Parental Placements, a recommendation is made to the Court instead of approval).

FEES: Please see the fee schedules in the packet.