

**On Your Feet Foundation
452 Central Ave. Suite 210
Highland Park, IL 60035**

On Your Feet Foundation Assistance

Who Can Receive “On Your Feet” Assistance?

- Anyone who has given birth and placed a child for adoption in Illinois or Indiana within the most recent 36 months is eligible to apply for assistance.
- Applicants must be present legally in the United States.
- To maintain privacy, referrals to the “On Your Feet Foundation” must be from:
 - An adoption agency
 - The applicant herself
 - The applicant’s parents or legal guardian
 - Attorney

What Type of Assistance Do You Provide?

- All birth parents enrolled in the program will have a case manager working to network services and find strategies that are long-term and comprehensive.
- Assistance may be provided for school and school-related expenses, interim housing expenses, job counseling and job search-related expenses, interim job-related expenses, such as transportation or child care, and short-term counseling.
- Applicants are encouraged to identify other needs in addition to the above for consideration by the “On Your Feet Foundation.” The list above is an example of the types of assistance that will be considered, but you may have a unique need that will be considered.

Are There Any Types of Requests You Do Not Grant?

- Funds are not intended for long-term educational efforts, housing, or job assistance, but rather to help the birth parent “get on their feet” quickly and, if needed, to access other sources of longer-term assistance such as scholarships or loans, mortgage assistance, etc.
- On Your Feet Foundation assistance is not intended to replace funds from ongoing programs such as Medicaid, Section 8 housing assistance, food stamps, or scholarships, but rather to be an interim or supplemental source of assistance to birth parents.

How Much Assistance Do You Provide?

- Typical assistance ranges from \$500 to \$5,000 a year.
- The assistance is intended to help the birth parent get on their feet as quickly as possible, and is typically not renewed for a second year, except in unusual circumstances.

How Are Assistance Decisions Made?

- The “On Your Feet” Foundation makes decisions based on the financial and emotional needs of the birth parent applicants.
- The Foundation reviews a completed application and awards grants on an as-needed basis, contingent on funds being available.

How Long Does It Take To Get Assistance?

- Applicants will be notified within eight weeks of submitting a completed application and having an interview with a volunteer from On Your Feet Foundation.

Who Receives the Funds?

- Similar to adoption assistance, funds will be disbursed to the organization actually providing the services to you. For example, test-taking fees would be sent on your behalf by the On Your Feet Foundation to the test provider, GED fees would be remitted on your behalf to the institution.

How Do I Receive An Application?

- Contact On Your Feet Foundation by calling 847-433-7820 and requesting an application. Or you can contact Vicki Twomey, the case manager, directly at 224-578-1850 or at OYFF@beakstar.com.

**On Your Feet Foundation
452 Central Ave. Suite 210
Highland Park, IL 60085**

Application

Today's Date _____

Applicants Name _____

Please check: **Birthmother** _____ **Birthfather** _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

E-mail address _____

Daytime Phone _____ **Evening Phone** _____

Social Security Number _____

Date of Birth _____ **Place of Birth** _____

Marital Status: _____ Married
_____ Single
_____ Separated
_____ Divorced

How did you hear about the On Your Feet Foundation?

_____ Adoption Agency _____

(name, address, phone, contact)

_____ Attorney Name: _____

_____ Other _____

When did you place your child for adoption? _____
(date)

Which Adoption Agency, if any, handled the adoption? _____

Which attorney handled your adoption? _____

How many years of school have you completed? _____

High School	_____	What kind? _____
Trade school	_____	
GED	_____	area of study _____
Some college	_____	
A.A.	_____	Major _____
B.A.	_____	
Other	_____	Please specify _____

Number of Dependents _____
Names(s) and relationship(s) _____

Occupation _____ **Employer** _____
How Long _____ **Estimated net monthly income** _____

If married,
Spouse's occupation _____ **Employer** _____
How Long _____ **Estimated net monthly income** _____

Are you living _____ **Alone**
_____ **With your children How Many?** _____
_____ **With your parents**
_____ **Other** _____

Are other adults in your household sharing living costs? _____

If Yes, explain _____

Please investigate the following sources of help. Indicate “no” or “NA” if source was investigated but funding was refused.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parental support | <input type="checkbox"/> Rent Assist. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food stamps | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational Scholarship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Your place of worship | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Authority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Loans | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Do you receive:

- General Assistance? _____ \$ _____ month
AFDC? _____ \$ _____ month
Unemployment? _____ \$ _____ month
Social Security? _____ \$ _____ month

What is your current monthly income, including salary, child support, and any other income? _____

What are your monthly expenses? Include housing, food, utilities, telephone, transportation, child care, laundry, clothing, insurance, credit card and other debt, etc. _____

Please list three people who we may contact to receive a personal reference about you (Non-family members only). Please provide name, address, and phone number.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

Explain what type of assistance you need from On Your Feet Foundation.

Date assistance is needed? _____

What is the amount requested? Please itemize all costs.

If you receive the funds, please list at least three of your goals over the next 6 months, and how you would accomplish these goals.

What do you see yourself doing in five years?

Anything else you would like to tell us?