Policy 145
Baby Adoption

The policy of the Group Health Benefits Office (GHB) requires a clergy in the GHB Plan to submit an Adoption Expense Reimbursement Form – itemized receipts, and a copy of the adoption decree. GHB office will reimburse the clergy immediately upon receiving the data.

A 1099 form will be issued by the GHB office for all reimbursements under this program.

AMENDMENT #1

Effective January 1, 1998, return to the Baby Adoption Option that was approved at Annual Conference in 1983.

The payable under this option is as follows:

- **$1,800** maximum to the legal adoption agency for costs incurred during the confinement of the mother who gives birth to the baby; the attending physician; and foster care.

- **$500** maximum to the adopting parents for costs they incur, making a total maximum benefit of **$2,300**.

The six-month waiting period before the adoption is legalized has no bearing on when the coverage is effective. It becomes effective when the child is totally under the care of the adopting parents.

* In the event there is a contradiction between the GHB policy and the Plan Document, the Plan Document shall prevail.
* The above is to comply with the overall GHB Committee decision and is periodically reviewed by the committee.

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