



Angels in Adoption® Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the Angels in Adoption® Program?

The Angels in Adoption® Program is the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute's (CCAI) signature public awareness program. It provides an opportunity to honor the good work of individuals, couples, and organizations who have enriched the lives of children around the world. This program includes an annual event in Washington, DC, the Angels in Adoption® gala, which is geared toward highlighting ordinary people doing extraordinary things. These unsung heroes are selected as Angels in Adoption® Honorees. In addition to those honored from all 50 states and the District of Columbia, National Angels are recognized for their adoption and foster care advocacy on a nationwide scale. Each year, over 100 Members of Congress participate, making it the year's single most significant congressional event pertaining to child welfare in the United States.

Is there a program registration fee for the Angels in Adoption® Program?

No, there is no registration fee. We are thrilled to be able to offer a full child welfare congressional leadership program without registration costs. By traveling to DC to participate in the Angels in Adoption® Program, CCAI covers all events such as welcome kickoff, advocacy fair, breakout sessions, legislative seminars, movie night, Hill Day, reception, and gala (two tickets/honoree) as well as an official Angels in Adoption® honorary pin and certificate, photo with a Member of Congress, a snack on Wednesday afternoon, candy bar at the movie night, light pastry breakfast on Thursday morning, and three-course gala dinner.

Who recommended me?

A Senator, Representative, or community member from your state or district provided us with your name, contact information, and brief biography of your good work. You are also welcome to contact Erika Brigantti at erika@ccainstitute.org or call CCAI at (202-544-8500) to be put in contact with your recommending Member of Congress' office.

Why should I come to Washington, DC?

This is an opportunity for Congress to celebrate your outstanding work and communicate to Members of Congress that adoption, foster care, and child welfare issues are very important to their constituents. The Angels in Adoption® Program is a truly once in a lifetime experience.



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What is the attire?

For all of Wednesday's events, the attire is casual. For the daytime Thursday events, please wear business attire. Keep in mind that you will be photographed with one or several Members of Congress. For Thursday night's gala, we suggest business professional dress – a nice suit or cocktail dress. The gala is in the evening and does include a standing reception beforehand, so comfortable shoes will help you enjoy the night.

When should I arrive to Washington, D.C.?

We highly recommend that honorees arrive on Wednesday morning, November 13th. Events do not begin until 1:00pm that day, and so, you should have plenty of time to settle in to your lodging accommodation that morning.

Where should I book my lodging accommodation?

You are welcome to stay wherever is most convenient and reasonable for you. We do not have an “official” hotel partner as one hotel can oftentimes not accommodate all families, groups, affordability, and preferences. Because of this, we encourage all honorees to find lodging wherever works with them – some stay at hotels, others with family and friends in the area, and many at AirBnBs. In fact, AirBnBs are very popular in D.C. and accessible across the city. You can look at the available listings at <https://www.airbnb.com>.

We suggest staying in an area around the U.S. Capitol to make attending the Angels events as easy as possible. DC is very walkable and staying close by to the Capitol will allow for walking to many of the events as parking is difficult to come by as well.

Past honorees have enjoyed staying at the following hotels close to the U.S. Capitol:

- Holiday Inn Washington-Capitol, 550 C St SW, Washington, DC 20024
- Hyatt Regency Washington On Capitol Hill, 400 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001
- Phoenix Park Hotel, 520 North Capitol St NW, Washington, DC 20001
- Washington Court Hotel, 525 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001
- Liaison Washington Capitol Hill, 415 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001
- Kimpton George Hotel, 15 E St NW, Washington, DC 20001



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Who will be at the gala?

Gala attendees include your fellow Angels in Adoption® Honorees, Members of Congress, celebrities, adoption advocacy organizations, and program sponsors. Gala attendance last year included about 500-600 people.

What is the price of tickets to the Gala?

As an Angels in Adoption® Honoree you are given two (2) complimentary tickets. This is for every Angel, whether an organization, couple, family, or individual. It is not two tickets per listed person (ie: a couple does not get 4 complimentary tickets in total). Beyond your allotted two complimentary tickets, you may purchase additional seats for \$100 per adult meal (three courses) and \$50 per child meal (same starter and dessert as adults with chicken fingers as entrée) for kids under the age of 18 to cover the cost of the food. The ticket prices are \$250 for the general public.

How much are tickets to the Angels in Adoption® Reception and Gala for the general public?

\$250.00 per seat.

How many Angel honorary pins do I receive?

As an Angels in Adoption® Honoree, you will receive one (1) complimentary handcrafted Angel Pin on November 14th during Hill Day. For example, whether you were honored as Mr. Jim Jones, Mr. Jim and Kathy Jones, or Jim Jones' Adoption Associates, you will receive only one pin. We are acutely aware of the significance of these pins and are proud of what they represent for our Angels. Over the years, we have watched Angels wear their pins as a badge of honor and they serve as a wonderful conversation piece. We have imposed a limit on the pins because of the rising cost to produce these pins by our jeweler vendor. The pin costs us \$60.00 per pin to produce. We encourage you to order as many pins as you would like at the rate charged to us by our vendor, Mignon Faget. We will not add any fees to your purchase, which includes zero shipping or handling fees. To order additional pins, please visit the official CCAI Angels in Adoption® merchandise table starting at opening session on Wednesday to place your online order and pick-up your pin.



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Do I have to pay for my own travel to Washington, DC?

It is our dream to be able to fly each and every Angel to Washington for the two days of events celebrating our nation's most giving individuals. Unfortunately, CCAI is not able to provide travel assistance to every Angel this year. To help defray some of the costs for our most needy of Angels, CCAI has set up an Angel Wings Scholarship Fund, which will provide scholarships to Angels for travel and lodging in Washington. You can apply for a scholarship under the "Angels Wings" online form [here](#).

What is Hill Day?

Angels in Adoption® Hill Day is an advocacy event where advocates are brought together to use their voices and expertise to inform Members of Congress and their staff about the needs of their communities. Angels Honorees will be organized into small groups and, with the guidance of our wonderful Hill Day Leaders, will visit congressional offices to bring very important child welfare issues to the attention of congressional members and their staff. Angel Honorees will also receive their honorary Angels pin and certificates during their Hill Day meetings. Oftentimes this is the highlight of the program for Angel Honorees.

In regard to preparing for Hill Day, the CCAI team will be hosting seminars before and during the program to help prepare honorees for Hill Day including how to discuss relevant child welfare topics in congressional meetings and how to strategically share your story. Our friends at Arnold & Porter, in partnership with CCAI, graciously donate their time each year to organize and execute Angels Hill Day. You are in good hands!

Can I meet with my Member of Congress while I am in town?

Yes, as part of the official Angels in Adoption® Hill Day, we are planning a meeting for you and your nominating congressional office as well as other offices who are interested in child welfare. This means we will set up three to four congressional meetings for you.

Note: Because CCAI leads outreach on scheduling for approximately four meetings per honoree group, we strongly encourage honorees to not schedule their own separate meetings directly with congressional offices – this increases confusion for congressional offices, CCAI, and our affiliates as we prepare and execute Hill Day. We appreciate your understanding! If you have any questions, please contact CCAI's Director of Policy, Taylor Draddy, at taylor@ccainstitute.org.



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Will there be CCAI and Angels merchandise on sale?

Yes! Merchandise will be on sale at all events throughout the program. 2019 merch is still in the works, but previous years have included t-shirts and baseball caps. We are very excited to be adding more items for 2019!

When will a finalized schedule of events for the program be shared?

The 2019 Angels in Adoption® Schedule of Events is expected to be released in October. All Angel Honorees will receive an email with the schedule when it's published!

Where will the program events take place?

All events on Wednesday and for the morning and afternoon will take place at or around the U.S. Capitol. Details will be shared on the Schedule of Events released in October! The gala takes place at the Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center each year.

Where can I find a list of the 2019 Angels in Adoption® Honorees?

A list of the 2019 Angels in Adoption® Honorees will be published on the CCAI website by October 1, 2019.

Is the Angels in Adoption® Program kid-friendly?

The answer is YES - we love kids and try to be as inclusive as possible. Kids of all ages are always welcome to any and all events.

An important item to note - Angels Hill Day during the morning and afternoon on Thursday, November 14th is open to kids, though it is a long day (approx. 9AM to 3PM) with lots of walking, waiting, and meetings, which can be difficult for young children. Hill Day includes several hours of walking between House and Senate buildings with minimal seating and rest areas. Also, Capitol Hill offices are typically quite small and therefore often have difficulty accommodating groups larger than 10-12 visiting the office. We share this to help you determine the best size of your group. It is important to note, the advocacy day may be difficult for young children and those unable to walk for long periods of time.



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When will Angel Honorees receive honorary pins and certificates?

During Hill Day – this day is the highlight of the program for most as this is the time you meet with the congressional office who nominated you and have the opportunity to share your story. You will receive a photo as well as your honorary pin and certificate.

If I cannot travel to DC for the program, but still wish to be honored, what are my options?

CCAI will mail you your pin/certificate/letter etc. and let your nominating congressional office know that you are unable to travel to D.C. Sometimes a small event will be arranged in the state or district although that is at the discretion of the Member of Congress.

What is there to do in Washington, DC?

Washington is a great city to visit and has enough activities to keep you busy while you are in town. We recommend you visit [The Official Tourism Site of DC](#) for information. There are many free options as well such as the Smithsonian museums on the National Mall, National Zoo in Woodley Park, and self-led monument tours.

Does CCAI, as a tax-exempt non-profit, accept matching gifts?

We certainly do accept matching gifts! Please contact Carly Wortham at carly@ccainstitute.org or call CCAI at (202) 544-8500.