



NewGen

FAMILIES

Intended Parent Handbook

USA



Congratulations and welcome to the NewGen Families Surrogacy Program! We are so happy that you have taken the initial big step to join our family and we cannot wait to continue this amazing journey with you.

This guide was created to provide you with a handbook to refer to throughout your surrogacy journey. Keep in mind that not all surrogacy journeys are the same and that this guide is a general reference to our program that is based on the average experience for an Intended Parent.

Please note that the guide does not include the initial IVF processes. Each clinic has its own protocols with regards to creating embryos and our Intended Parents' needs are also unique and different. The guide outlines the onboarding process with NewGen Families and the entire process from Surrogate Matching once you have created your beautiful embryos.

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Initial Steps

The initial steps process should only take a few weeks. Please see below your list of initial documents to commence the process.

Agency Retainer Agreement

This is the agreement between you and NewGen Families that clearly outlines which plan you have selected and the applicable payment milestones. The document will be sent via Panda Doc. Intended Parent(s) or IP(s) are required to sign before Damien Chambers, NewGen Families CEO, will confirm and endorse the agreement. Once all parties have signed, you will receive a signed and certified copy via email.

Intended Parent Doc

This document is for NewGen Families to place your personal information into our CRM. The document will also be sent via Panda Doc.

HIPAA Doc

This ensures that we can contact and communicate with Medical Professionals regarding your personal medical history. The document will once again be sent via Panda Doc.

Intended Parent Profile for your future Surrogate

We kindly ask that you prepare a letter for your future Surrogate. This brief introduction lets them know a little bit about who you are, your hobbies, your job, your family and the city where you currently reside.

Introduction to Smart Currencies and Sable International Case Managers; Dean, Gemma and Sebastian (for Non-US IPs only)

As soon as you sign and return all required documents, we will introduce you to your Case Managers at Smart Currencies and Sable International, who will guide and advise you when it is the right time to purchase your USD.

For those who select to work with Clarity Trust (Escrow Account)

It's time to meet Diana and her team from Clarity Trust. They will be responsible for setting up your Trust Account and will ultimately act as your Financial Managers for your entire journey. All funds pertaining to your journey will be transferred into Escrow. You will have 24/7 access to your online portal so you can see exactly what payments have been made. If at any time throughout your journey you receive an invoice or bill from someone other than NewGen Families, please DO NOT pay. Call us and we will rectify the issue. Any remaining funds in your Trust account will be reimbursed 6 months post-birth.

Request For Payment (RFP)

Once Escrow is established and your online portal has been fully activated, you will receive an RFP for your first payment milestone. This payment will be due upon being matched with your surrogate.

Criminal Background Check

All IP(s) must submit their background check certificates BEFORE being matched with a Surrogate. International IP(s) must ensure that any document that is in a language other than English, must be translated to English and notarised. For local USA IP(s), NewGen Families will send you a document that gives us permission to run a background check on your behalf.

Matching

Surrogate Matching

This is now one of the most exciting stages of your journey. Once we have your beautiful PGT tested embryos, we are ready to start the match process. During this process, we want you to feel 100% comfortable with the choice that you are making when selecting a Surrogate. When you reach our matching stage, you will be sent a profile that we believe may best suit you. Please take your time reviewing the profile that has been sent to you. We encourage you to at least move on to the Match Meeting stage, and then decide.

Surrogate Background Check

After a Surrogate's records have been approved by the IVF clinic, they will be emailed a link to Goodhire, the company we use to conduct a thorough and comprehensive background check on a Surrogate and anyone else who resides with them over the age of 18.

Psychological Evaluation

A very important part of our Surrogate Screening Process is the Psychological Evaluation. Surrogates are connected with a licensed Mental Health Professional (MHP) within the State where they reside. This appointment will take approximately two hours: the first hour is devoted to an interview and the second hour for the completion of an online psychological assessment inventory or MMPI (Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory). The MMPI is a standardized psychometric test of adult personality and psychopathology. Please keep in mind that if Surrogates are married or have a significant other, their spouse or partner will need to attend the interview portion.

Match Meeting

You have been issued with a Surrogate profile and both parties have agreed to meet. Your Case Manager and the Surrogate Coordinator will schedule the meeting. Once a date and time has been chosen, a Google Meet link will be sent to all parties involved.

Those present at the Google Meet will be your Case Manager, the Surrogate Coordinator, and the Surrogate. Once all parties are on the call, we will commence with the introductions. Then you continue to get to know one another and discover what you both are seeking with regards to your surrogacy journey. We are there to support everyone in feeling comfortable moving forward to the next steps and will help guide all involved with any uncomfortable, yet important questions. We recommend that you take some time after your match meeting in order to reflect and process all that you have discussed. If you have any questions that you would like to clarify with your potential Surrogate, we will happily send them your questions and provide you with the answers. This way you can feel confident in the choice you are making. We do, however, ask that you inform us of your decision within 48 hours.

Surrogate's Process

Post Matching

Congratulations for being officially matched! This is such an exciting time for you as IP(s). The bond you are about to create with your Surrogate can be life changing.

This section can be used in reference to any travel for your Surrogate that is more than 100 miles away from where she is located.

Flights

Booking flights for your Surrogate will be dependent on where she is located and where she is traveling to. Your Surrogate's Coordinator will typically book her flights throughout the journey (medical screening, embryo transfer etc.).

Driving

If your Surrogate lives near the clinic with which you will be working, she may drive instead of taking a flight.

Hotel

Your Surrogate's Coordinator will book her accommodation in a hotel that is located near the clinic where her appointment is scheduled. Medical Screening appointments only require a 1-night stay. If she has a partner, they are not required to attend this appointment. For the Embryo Transfer, we will require her to stay a minimum of 2-3 nights.

Surrogate Medical Screening

We will send your Surrogate's medical records to the clinic to be reviewed by their physician and to verify that her previous pregnancies and deliveries were uncomplicated. She will then be scheduled to visit the clinic for a 1-day screening where she will require a full medical evaluation that includes: infectious disease labs, drug screen, physical exam, and a Saline Sonohysterogram to check the inside of her uterus for any abnormalities. Results from the screening take approximately 3 weeks. While we are waiting for her results, we will then proceed to the legal process.





Legal Process (I)

Gestational Carrier Agreement (GCA)

Your selected attorney will be working directly with you during the first legal phase which is preparing and negotiating the GCA between you and your Surrogate. This process can take up to one - two months. It is very important that you understand the contract that you are about to enter in to. Please don't hesitate to ask your attorney questions if you are unsure about a specific clause. Key terms include your Surrogate's compensation and reimbursements according to her benefits package, her health insurance, life insurance policy, the birthing process and anything else that is important to make both parties comfortable throughout the pregnancy and birth.

Contact Information Exchange

After the GCA has been signed by all participating parties, we will forward your contact details to your Surrogate and vice-versa, so that you may begin to develop a relationship with one another. We like to encourage a happy and healthy relationship between our IP(s) and their Surrogates. Always remember that your Case Manager represents you and they are responsible for discussing any matters that you may find uncomfortable and that may put a strain on your relationship. If there is ever a time during your journey that you need someone to speak for you, we are here to support you and to help find a solution that will work for all parties involved. In saying that, IP(s) and Surrogates traditionally have the most beautiful and unique relationship that usually lasts a life time!

The IVF Process

Your Surrogate's Cycle Calendar and Medications

The clinic's Third-Party Coordinator will now discuss the next steps in the IVF process with you and your Surrogate: the Cycle Calendar and Medications.

A cycle calendar and medication list will be provided to your Surrogate based on the approximate day of your Embryo Transfer. This calendar will continue up until she graduates from the IVF clinic and will include the following information:

- ▶ List of medication and when/how to take them
- ▶ Monitoring appointment dates i.e., blood draws and ultrasounds
- ▶ Transfer date
- ▶ HCG blood draw dates
- ▶ Heartbeat confirmation dates

Your Surrogate will be provided with instructions on how to properly take and inject her medications. She will also be issued with a detailed calendar which will contain the exact dosages and times that the medications will need to be taken.

Transfer Travel

It is a requirement that your Surrogate has a support person with her for the embryo transfer. Her support person is there to ensure that she is not overworking herself and she is fully resting post transfer. Once the clinic has officially approved the transfer day, we will book flights and accommodation for your Surrogate and her support person. In most cases, the embryo transfer is confirmed at least 6 days prior to the planned transfer date.

Embryo Transfer

YAY! It's Transfer Day! This is one of the most exciting and yet nerve-racking parts of the whole process. Your Surrogate will start medications to prepare the lining of her uterus. The uterine preparation can take 21-28 days. She will be monitored with ultrasounds and labs at a center local to her during this time. Once the uterine lining is ready, your Surrogate will travel to the clinic and the embryo is thawed and transferred. The clinic coordinator will call you via WhatsApp so you can watch the transfer live. After the transfer, your Surrogate will then have 2 days of required rest before returning home.

Pregnancy Test

Whilst the official BETA test will take place 10 days after the embryo transfer, it is not uncommon for Surrogates and IP(s) to agree on conducting home pregnancy tests 5-6 days after the transfer. If the 1st official BETA test is positive, we will perform another BETA test 48 hours later. If this test is positive, then CONGRATULATIONS! You are officially pregnant!

Pregnancy

First Trimester

6-12 weeks gestation

**Note: you are considered 4 weeks pregnant by your first BETA blood draw.*

Heartbeat Confirmation Ultrasound

The Heartbeat Confirmation Ultrasound will be conducted around 6- and 9-weeks' gestation and will determine the growth and heartrate of the embryo that was transferred. This is a very exciting milestone since you are thoroughly included in the process. Once again, the clinic coordinator will call you via WhatsApp for these beautiful milestones. Hearing your baby's heartbeat for the first time is truly one of the greatest moments you will ever experience.

Clinic Graduation to Surrogate's OB Office

You are now officially pregnant and your Surrogate has already completed two ultrasounds! At this time, your Surrogate will graduate to her own OB. Your Surrogate's OB may request that she conduct a NT (nuchal translucency scan). However, if the embryo/s are PGT tested, you may skip this step if all parties involved agree. Please reach out to the team at the clinic for any advice concerning this matter.



Second Trimester

13 to 27 weeks gestation

Surrogate Appointments

During the remainder of your Surrogate's pregnancy, you will be notified of all her appointments. We will always try to ensure that your Surrogate schedules these appointments at a suitable time whilst taking your time zone into consideration if you are an international IP.

20-week Anatomy Scan

This scan is a very exciting milestone for the pregnancy as you have reached the halfway mark. Many international IP(s) travel for the 20-week scan as this is an opportunity for you to meet your Surrogate and become familiar with the city where your baby will be born. However, this is not mandatory.



Legal Process (II)

The 2nd legal phase of your journey involves the issuance of a Pre or Post Birth Order.

Pre-Birth Order Definition

A pre-birth order is a legal document that establishes the Intended Parent(s) as the full legal parent(s) of the child before the Surrogate gives birth. If your state requires a Pre-Birth Order, this will be filed by your lawyer. An electric copy and an original certified copy will be provided to the hospital or birthing center where you plan on delivering.

Post-Birth Order Definition

This is similar to a pre-birth order except that the paperwork cannot be filed until after a Surrogate has given birth to your baby. If your state requires a Post-Birth Order, this will be filed after your delivery.

During the second trimester, your attorney will explain in detail the contents of the court documents that declare you to be the legal parent(s) of your child. The state where your baby is born will be the deciding factor on whether or not you qualify for a Pre or a Post Birth Order.



Third Trimester

Weeks 28 to birth

The final Trimester is where the excitement truly kicks in. Not just for you as IP(s), but also for us as an agency. Moreover, the final Trimester is when you will receive our Birth Preparation manual in preparation for the birth.

At this time, we advise you and your Surrogate to create a Birthing Plan. Therefore, it is important to know the following in advance:

- ▶ Who will be present in the delivery room for the birth?
- ▶ From what position, in relation to your Surrogate, will you witness the birth?
- ▶ Are you allowed to take photos or videos of the delivery?
- ▶ Who will cut the umbilical cord?
- ▶ Who will be responsible for advising the Doctors/Nurses of the Birthing Plan?

These are the most common topics that you should discuss whilst developing a Birthing Plan.



Birth and Post-Partum

It's finally here! The day you have all been waiting for. When your Surrogate is officially in active labor and on her way to the hospital, her support person, including your Case Manager, will reach out and let you know that it is time. The hospital should have already received the Birthing Plan at this stage. However, it is best to bring a copy with you. Breathe, and enjoy what will no doubt be one of, if not the most, incredible experiences of your life.

We kindly ask that you update us at your earliest convenience. We can't wait to hear the news!

Please note: We require all IP(s) to submit an Emergency Plan if, in an emergency situation, you are unable to attend the birth. This will outline exactly what the process is with regards to who looks after your baby in your absence and precisely what role you wish your Surrogate to play.

For all Post-Birth processes, please refer to your *Birth Preparation Manual*.

Journey Completion

You have finished your journey! We hope that you have enjoyed your experience as Intended Parent(s) with us. The entire NewGen Families' team wishes to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for trusting us to help grow your family. You and your Surrogate have now completed an incredible journey full of creativity, beauty and empowerment. You have passed beyond the boundary of what was once unattainable and are now ready to receive the gift of unconditional love, a child. We wish you all the best.

“There is nothing more beautiful than someone who goes out of their way to make life beautiful for others.”

-Mandy Hale

