

Circle's JOURNEY PROTECTION™ | Escrow



30+
Years

Over three decades of protecting every dollar of your family funds

5,000+
Clients

First-time and repeat families who trusted Circle with their surrogate journey savings

We are proud to offer our clients the highest level of security and piece of mind with our Journey Protection™ Escrow service. We take the protection of our clients' funds seriously because we know that loss of funds would be catastrophic for intended parents and surrogates.

Our Journey Protection™ Escrow is:

- insured to protect every dollar against crime and fraud.
- managed with accounting protocols that prevent any one person from moving money.
- protected by enterprise-grade cyber security.

We offer multiple layers of safeguards to protect our clients, surrogates, and donors.



Accounting Security Protocols

Every dollar of client funds we hold is protected by an insurance policy backed by top insurers.

Security process protocols are safety measures for how your money is managed and insured:

- Circle Surrogacy's highly secured escrow service is managed in a separate escrow fund by an independent operational team of Trust Accountants. Our Trust Accountants review all disbursement requests submitted for payment from our clients' escrow accounts and ensure that all requests comply with any contracts in place and that proper invoices and receipts are obtained prior to approval.
- All outgoing wires or ACH payments are subject to dual control approvals, which means that the same accounting employee processing payments cannot release them without another specialist reviewing and approving payment.
- All escrow accounts are subject to a daily limit for wires and ACH payments, with only the Chief Financial Officer able to request an increase from the bank.
- Along with security and fraud protection offered by our bank where client funds are held, a series of insurance policies provided by top-rated insurers further protect all client funds we hold against any potential losses, errors, or crime.
- Along with internal controls and reconciliations, all accounts held by Circle are also audited yearly by an independent accounting firm.
- We use software that provides audit trails of all expense requests, approvals, receipts, and other tracking functions for each client account for complete transparency.



Crime Coverage Policies

An extensive crime coverage policy protects against fraud tactics.

One of the biggest threats to escrow accounts is criminal activity which can be enacted by internal and external individuals. Circle Surrogacy enforces a layer of protection for every dollar in our escrow account with an extensive crime coverage policy that covers a wide range of fraud losses, including:

- Theft by employees, as well as acts committed by individuals outside the organization.
- Acts such as theft, forgery, and fraud.
- Counterfeit currency in the form of money orders, checks, credit/debit/charge cards.
- Computer crimes include hacking or destruction of data.



Cyber Security Procedures

Enterprise - grade insurance and cyber security protocols ensure your money is untouchable.

And lastly, Circle Surrogacy is at the forefront of technology ensuring our cyber security procedures are always advancing with the speed of the industry. These procedures are implemented to ensure the confidentiality, availability, integrity, and network security of your data:

- Quarterly employee access reviews help manage who has access to enterprise applications to make sure only the right people have visibility to your data, and what resources can do within our platforms to minimize the risk of excessive, unnecessary, and misused access. In addition, all employees undergo Security Awareness Training during regular intervals.
- Identity verification of all users is enforced using multifactor authentication to ensure secure access to any application from anywhere with persistent audits of any changes to your data and monitoring of system activity.
- Security software protection is running on all devices, accounts, and communications to prevent unauthorized loss or compromise due to vulnerabilities such as malware, spam, and phishing. All data is encrypted using a secret code to prevent unauthorized access both in transit and at rest.
- System data is stored on a third-party cloud and is backed up every 4 hours under a seven year backup retention policy. All third-party vendors and partners are continuously monitored for their cyber security posture to prevent any vulnerabilities.

Circle Surrogacy Escrow Trust Accounts have all the requirements to secure your funds:

- Qualified Trust Accountants managing all disbursement compliance.
- Dual control approvals and controls over any fund transfers.
- Bonding by an independent insurance broker.
- Annual audits by an independent accounting firm.
- An extensive crime coverage policy covering theft, forgery, counterfeiting, fraud and computer crimes.
- Cyber security procedures oversee access and identity management for system access.
- Anti-virus and encryption technologies to prevent unauthorized loss or compromise.
- Third-party cloud data back-up and extended 7-year retention period.

With Circle Surrogacy, you can focus on your surrogacy journey with confidence. We're committed to supporting you on the sometimes complex and long road to building your family.

We understand this is a meaningful investment and will treat your funds with the care and security your family deserves. Our team is here to offer you guidance and answer any questions you may have about Circle's Journey Protection™ Escrow service.

Please contact Melissa Riccioli at mr Riccioli@circlesurrogacy.com with any questions.