



THE PHILIPPINES

Adoption regulations in the Philippines allows Christian Adoption Services, Inc. to coordinate placements throughout the United States. If residing outside NC, an adoption agreement will need to be established with a direct service agency in the applicant's home state.

The approximate wait time is approximately 24-30 months for the placement of children between the ages of 2 1/2 and 15 years. At this time, gender cannot be specified. There is to be 2 years of "nurturance" between the adopted child and any children currently in the family. Although no applications are being received for infants, adoptive families are also being sought for school-age children and sibling groups of 3 or more. The InterCountry Adoption Board (ICAB) maintains its roster of waiting parents by date of approval of the applicant's dossier. The assessed ability of the adoptive parents to respond to the specific needs of the child or children who are in need of placement is weighed heavily by ICAB.



Adoptive applicants are to be physically and psychologically healthy and are required to take the MMPI-2-RF and the MCMI-III psychological tests as part of the psychological evaluation.* Applicants are to be at least 27 years of age with the maximum adoptive mother's age being no more than 45 years older than the child. Couples should be married for at least 3 years. Singles are currently being accepted into this program for children over the age of 9 years. No applicant will be received if he/she has been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude.

Upon receipt of the applicant's dossier, it is reviewed by the InterCountry Adoption Board (ICAB) with its assessment usually being known within 6-8 weeks. The waiting time for placement then begins.

Foreign adoption expenses are low in comparison to most intercountry programs since the government does subsidize a major portion of the adoption expenses. Because English is widely spoken in the Philippines, the completed application and supportive documents do not need to be translated. Notarized or certified documents are required for the InterCountry Adoption Board dossier.



At least one adoptive parent is expected to travel to receive the child. The stay may be as brief as 5 days. Visa petitions are to be filed stateside with the applicants' nearest office of Citizenship and Immigration Services. Consequently, the child's visa will have been issued prior to the parent's arrival in Manila. Parents are encouraged to travel to their child's specific orphanage to receive their child there, thus minimizing the adjustment for the child.

The Philippines holds legal custody of the children it places for adoption for an initial supervisory period of six months. Once there is confirmation that the child and family are doing well in placement, the Affidavit of Consent will be released, thus allowing the child's adoption to be finalized in the U.S. The ICAB is requesting that the forthcoming Decree of Adoption be submitted to close the file.

The InterCountry Adoption Board welcomes adult adoptees to visit their country of birth. With advance notice, the ICAB will strive to acquire current birth parent information for adoptees who visit the Philippines.

* Unacceptable medical issues include: diabetes mellitus, obese (BMI of PAPs should be 35 and below, cancer, major organ transplant, pacemaker, stroke, myocardial infarction, multiple sclerosis/degenerative muscular disorder, autoimmune disorders, risk factors that can impede care (i.e. blind, deaf, etc.), Hep C, psychiatric disorders, mood disorders/major depressive disorders, anxiety disorders, substance abuse, sexual disorders. **PAPs seeking a relative or special needs child will be assessed on a case by case basis.**

Special Note:

In an effort to reduce “the wait” placement, the ICAB has imposed a policy that limits the number of “regular” applications that agencies can submit at a given time. Please call the CAS office for an update regarding this policy.

Estimated Fees and Expenses

CAS Fees

Application Fee (due with application)	\$ 200
Coordination Fees (due upon approval of home study)	3,500
Acceptance of Referral (due upon acceptance of legal documents of child)	<u>3,000</u>
Total	\$6,700

Estimated Additional Expenses (Based on 2 adults)

USCIS I800A Fee	\$805
Fingerprints	85
Passports	120
Passport photos	30
Psychological Evaluation	1,300
Airport Departure Fee	40
Training Series	<u>150</u>
Total	\$2,530

Estimated International Expenses

ICAB Application & Processing (due when sending dossier)	\$300
ICAB Pre-travel Processing (one child)*	2,000
Orphanage Contribution/placement*	1,000
Preplacement & coordinating* (* due upon acceptance of referral)	2,500

GRAND TOTAL \$18,630

All fees are non-refundable.

CAS fee is \$1,000 per additional sibling.

Sibling groups of 2 or more:
ICAB Pre-travel Processing \$3,000

Travel

Accommodations, etc.	400
Travel (RT-2 adults, 1 way child)	<u>3,200</u>
Total	\$9,400

Payments for CAS fees and International expenses are to be made payable to CAS via cash, check, or credit card. Payments made via credit card are subject to a 2% processing fee.

Many families will qualify for the adoption tax credit of approximately \$13,170 per child as created by the Hope for Children Act.

*Please contact CAS at cas@christianadopt.org
or at 704.847.0038 for more
information on our Philippines program.*

