



General Overview of International Adoption

- Information packet is sent to families requesting information.
- Attend an information meeting focusing on international adoption.
- Submit a preliminary application. You may fill out the application online by going to www.bethany.org/prelim or you may fill out the enclosed hard copy of the application.
- Formal application is completed and submitted.
- Formal application is approved by our corporate office in Grand Rapids, MI.
- Reference letters are sent to identified references.
- Begin to fill out paperwork required for the home study. All paperwork and references must be completed prior to the Joint Interview.
- At some point during the home study process, you must attend the all day International Education Class.
- Apply for your passports. Passports are valid for ten years.
- Attend a Joint Interview.
- Attend an Individual Interview. You will be given the I-600A packet that clears you and your child through the office of Immigration and Naturalization.
- Following submission of the I-600A application, you will be invited for fingerprinting.
- Home Visit.
- Dossier preparation occurs concurrently with the Home Study.
- Completed dossiers are sent to Grand Rapids for authentication and translation.
- Dossiers are sent to the foreign country.
- Referral is given to Grand Rapids. Grand Rapids contacts the social worker, who contacts the family.
- Acceptance of the referral is sent to Grand Rapids.
- Travel meeting is held with parents prior to travel.
- Couple travels to country to pick up child.
- Post-Placement Supervision begins as soon as family arrives home.
- Social worker remains available to the family as needed.
- Finalization or Adoption Registration. Obtain proof of citizenship, PA foreign born birth certificate, and social security number.