

Nightlight® Christian Adoptions

International Adoption Program Description

United Kingdom

GENERAL INFORMATION

The United Kingdom is a Hague Convention Country. Adoptive placements from the UK are limited to the adoption of first or second level biological relatives. We have worked with the local adoption authorities and UK Central Authority to help place children with aunts and uncles, grandparents and cousins over the past few years. There are no other adoptive placements that are currently allowed under UK law. The children are typically in the UK Foster care system with the intent to place them permanently with their biological relatives in the US. Nightlight estimates the UK adoption process will take between 12 and 24 months from application to completion, depending on issues related to the family situation. The adoption process is typically initiated by the family or foster care program in the UK.

The following websites are a useful place to start for reading more about UK adoptions and the country:

- U.S. State Department page about UK adoption: <https://travel.state.gov/content/adoptionsabroad/en/country-information/learn-about-a-country/united-kingdom.html>
- Information on the United Kingdom on the U.S. Department of State web site: <https://uk.usembassy.gov/our-relationship/policy-history/cultural-connections/>

CHILDREN AVAILABLE

- Boys and girls
- Babies through children under 16 years of age.
- Sibling groups
- The child or children must be a biological relative, available for adoption, meeting the 'orphan' definition.

ELIGIBILITY TO ADOPT

- Married couples and single individuals
- Applicants must be at least 25 years of age
- At least 18 years age difference between prospective adoptive parents and the adopted child.
- Biological relative of the intended adoptee.

PROCESS

1. Complete our online application
2. Begin your Home Study
3. After your Home Study is complete, submit an I-800A form to USCIS.
4. Once the I-800A receives provisional approval, Nightlight will work with the Council to arrange for the 10 week bonding period.
5. Nightlight will work together with the UK Council to gather the necessary documents for the I-800.
6. The UK Council will provide the Child medical, social and psychological reports.
7. Complete official referral review with Nightlight's Social Services Department
8. We will instruct you in filing the I-800 with Immigration and you will receive a provisional approval to adopt your child.
9. After the approval from Immigration, the parents and child will return to the UK to complete the adoption. Typically this trip is from 1-3 weeks, and includes the finalization of the adoption in the UK court, filing of the adoption paperwork and obtaining the US Immigrant VISA to return to the US.
10. The UK Council will assist you with the embassy appointment.
11. Once you arrive home, you will notify Nightlight.

TRAVEL & ADOPTION

- Typically, there is an initial visit to the UK to verify the family commitment to the adoption. Either the pre-adoptive family or the child social worker will transport the child to the US for the 10 week bonding period. Some portion of this time may be required to be completed in the UK.
- The Final trip is for the court hearing to complete the adoption. Only one parent needs to come although it is recommended that the entire family participate. You will file your child's adoption paperwork at the U.S. Embassy and obtain the child's U.S. Immigrant visa. Upon arriving back in the U.S. your child will automatically be a U.S. citizen. A few weeks after arriving home, your child will receive a Certificate of Citizenship.

POST ADOPTION

The Council/UK Central Authority does not have any post adoption reporting requirements. They do require post placement visits during the 10 week bonding period. The number of visits and who will provide them will be determined by the Council. Often, the visits and reports are completed by both the UK Social Worker as well as the US home study provider, during the 10-week period.

COSTS

The cost for a UK adoption is - \$7500. There is a \$500 application fee and then the program fee of - \$6500. There is a Monitoring and Oversight fee of \$500 per child which is paid to IAAME, the accrediting entity for the US Department of State, Office of Children's Issues, the US Central Authority. In most cases, the UK Council will cover the majority, if not all of the expenses. The actual expenses for the adoptive family are minimal.

For further information please contact Rhonda Jarema, at Rhonda@nightlight.org or call at (714) 693-5437



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christian adoptions

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Getting Started CHECKLIST

1. Fill out Application Documents

- Fill out the Online Application
- Read and Sign the Agreement for International Adoption Services
- Read and Sign the Social Media Policy
- Read and Sign the Complaint Procedure
- Read and Sign the “No Healthy Child Letter”
- Read and Sign the Consent to Release Confidential Information
- Read and sign the Privacy Practices
- Upload your family photo
- Pay the application fee

**Please Note: Keep the Complaint form for your records; you may want to make a copy of the Policy & Procedure to also keep for your records.*

2. Complete your Orientation

Once we review and accept your Application materials, we will send you an acceptance letter via e-mail. Shortly after that you will receive an invoice for the orientation phase and then begin your orientation with your adoption advisor.

3. Obtain a Home Study

- **If you live in Nightlight’s licensed area**, we will perform your home study. Once your application is approved, your adoption advisor will notify you how to get started on your home study with one of our Nightlight offices.
- **If you are out of Nightlight’s licensed area**, we will help you find a local agency.

Please read our [FAQs](#) before submitting your application. If you have any questions please call our office: at 502- 423-5780 or send us an e-mail at info@nightlight.org.

ATTACHMENT A
NIGHTLIGHT® CHRISTIAN ADOPTIONS
INTERNATIONAL ADOPTIONS – FEES AND ESTIMATED COSTS
UK Kinship Adoption Fees

PROGRAM FEE	COSTS	TOTALS	NOTES
Application Phase		\$500	<i>Due with application</i>
Monitoring and Oversight fee charged by accrediting entity. Per child		\$500	<i>Due upon signing the Agreement for International Services</i>
Orientation Phase		\$2500	<i>Due upon acceptance</i>
Dossier Phase		\$2500	<i>Due upon home study approval</i>
Referral Phase		\$1,500	<i>Due upon I-800A approval</i>
Total Program Fee		\$7,500	
OTHER COSTS (ESTIMATED)	COSTS	TOTALS	NOTES
U.S.-Based Fees		\$5,070 - \$10,740	
<i>Home Study</i>	<i>\$1,500 - \$3,000</i>		<i>Costs vary by state/agency</i>
<i>Post Placement reports</i>	<i>\$2,000 - \$4,000</i>		<i>Costs vary by state/agency</i>
<i>Shipping and/or translating of Post placement reports</i>	<i>\$0</i>		<i>Costs vary based on number of children adopted and number of reports Required by the foreign country. Due at referral phase.</i>
<i>Home study supporting documents</i>	<i>\$225</i>		<i>Cost for criminal clearances, obtaining physicals, and other misc. expenses</i>
<i>Parent Education/Training</i>	<i>\$100 - \$300</i>		<i>Estimated cost of online education courses</i>
<i>Home Study Review Fee</i>	<i>\$300</i>		<i>Review of home study prepared by an agency other than Nightlight</i>
<i>Home Study/USCIS update shipping and Translation fees</i>	<i>\$0</i>		<i>Paid to Nightlight when applicable</i>
<i>Psychological Evaluation/2 Parents</i>	<i>\$0 - \$500</i>		<i>Some countries will require this and some will not. In addition your home Study agency or Nightlight may require in certain circumstances.</i>
<i>USCIS Filing Fees</i>	<i>\$945</i>		<i>Includes I-800A application & biometrics for 2 adults.</i>
<i>Dossier Apostille/Authentication & courier Fees</i>	<i>\$0 - \$300</i>		<i>Dossier will be apostilled through the secretary of state. Costs vary by state.</i>
<i>Shipping/translation of dossier</i>	<i>\$0</i>		<i>Paid to Nightlight when applicable</i>
<i>Medical review of referral</i>	<i>\$0 - \$200</i>		<i>Some physicians do not charge for this service. International adoption clinics usually charge a fee for this service</i>
<i>Certificate of Citizenship (COC)</i>	<i>\$0 - \$1170</i>		<i>Applies to families in guardianship countries, families living abroad, families coming home on an IR4 visa. Not applicable in some countries.</i>
Other In-Country Adoption Costs		\$4,103 – \$9,203	
<i>Airfare (2 adults)</i>	<i>\$2,000 - \$5,000</i>		
<i>Airfare for child (one way)</i>	<i>\$600 - \$1,200</i>		<i>Depends on the child's age.</i>
<i>In Country Travel and Accommodations</i>	<i>\$1,000 - \$2,500</i>		<i>Estimated are for 2 people and 1 trip</i>
<i>Medical exam, immunization costs, TB screening, birth certificate, passport, etc.</i>	<i>\$209</i>		<i>Depends on child's age.</i>
<i>Child's visa</i>	<i>\$294</i>		<i>Depend on child's age</i>
Total Other Costs (Est.)		\$9,173 - \$19,943	
TOTAL FEES & ESTIMATED EXPENSES			
GRAND TOTAL		\$16,673 - \$27,443	

The cost of operating an international adoption program is substantial and increasing with the additional compliance requirements under the Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoption. The nature of international adoption makes it impossible to predict the exact costs you will incur, but we believe the estimates above are realistic. Although we strive to maintain a predictable fee schedule, unexpected increase in our costs may necessitate an increase in fees. Therefore, fees may be increased upon 90 day notice. Program fees are paid in phases and are non-refundable. Nightlight establishes a budget for costs each year based on the number of adoptions it estimates completing, as well as revenue from grants and donations. Based on these estimates, we establish program fees to cover the costs of attorneys, facilitators, social workers, insurance, and other costs we incur. Of course it would be prohibitive to allocate all of the costs (payroll, rent, insurance, supplies, travel, etc) to one adoption in one program.

Please initial on both this page and the following page that you have received a copy of this List of Fees and Estimated Costs.

Date: _____ **Adopting Parents:** _____

Attachment B
Nightlight Christian Adoptions
INTERNATIONAL ADOPTIONS – FEES AND ESTIMATED COSTS
UK Kinship Adoption Fees

SERVICES CATEGORIZED PER HAGUE REQUIREMENTS	UK Kinship
Home Study (including estimated out of pocket costs)	\$1,725 - \$3,225
Adoption expenses in the US -- (includes personnel costs, administrative overhead, operational costs, training and education, communications and publications costs and other costs associated with providing adoption services in the US);	\$7,500
Foreign country program expenses (includes personnel costs, administrative overhead, operational costs, training and education, communications and publications costs and other costs associated with providing adoption services in the child's convention country)	\$0
Care of the child (the expected total fees and estimated expenses charged to PAP's for the care of the child in the country of origin prior to adoption, including, but not limited to costs for food, clothing, shelter, medical care, foster care, orphanage care and other services provided DIRECTLY to the child.	\$0
Translation and Document Expenses: the expected total fees and estimated expenses for obtaining any necessary documents, translation of documents related to the adoption and information on whether the PAP's will pay costs directly or to a 3rd party either in the US or Convention country or through the agency. Category includes but is not limited to, costs for obtaining, translating, copying records or documents required to complete the adoption, costs for Convention court documents, passport, adoption certificate and other documents related to the adoption, costs for notarization and certifications.	\$0
Contributions: any fixed contribution amount or percentage that the PAP expected or required to make to child protection or child welfare service programs in the Child's convention country or in the US along with an explanation of the intended use of the contribution and the manner in which the transaction will be recorded and accounted for.	\$0
Post placement (PP) and reports: the expected total fees and estimated expenses for any PP reports that the agency or parents must prepare to comply with requirements of the expected country of origin (and NCA requirements) -.	\$2,000 - \$4,000
Travel/Accommodation Expenses: Estimated 2 Adults, 1 child: includes hotel, food, fuel, and airfare estimates.	\$3,600 – \$8,700
Third Party Expenses: includes USCIS fees, courier services, in-country guide, and child medical or visa costs if paid directly by the family. Rather than through Nightlight	\$1,548 - \$2,448

*The United Kingdom typically will cover all or most of the adoption expenses if the child is in care.

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