

# Nightlight® Christian Adoptions International Adoption Program Description Philippines



## General Information

The Philippines is in Southeast Asia, comprising of 7,641 islands and is home to approximately 113 million inhabitants. The Philippines is divided into 17 regions, with Manila serving as its capital. The Philippines is celebrated for its rich cultural diversity blending indigenous influences with Spanish, American, and Asian heritage. This nation is renowned for its breathtaking landscapes, pristine beaches, lush mountains, and captivating natural wonders.

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

[National Authority for Child Care | https://www.icab.gov.ph](https://www.icab.gov.ph) ([nacc.gov.ph](https://www.nacc.gov.ph)) National Authority for Child Care

[Philippines Intercountry Adoption Information \(state.gov\)](https://www.state.gov) The U.S. Department of State's information on Philippines adoption

[Philippines - United States Department of State](https://www.state.gov) U.S. Relations with Philippines

## About the Program

Nightlight became licensed to work in Philippines in January of 2024. Nightlight collaborates directly with the National Authority for Child Care (NACC), the central agency overseeing child welfare in the Philippines. Despite the Philippines program being a recent inclusion to our diverse international programs, Nightlight Christian Adoptions has been operational since the 1950s.

## Children Available

Children of varying ages are eligible for adoption from the Philippines, ranging from 2 to 15 years old. However, due to country privacy restrictions we are unable to post profiles of waiting children. These young individuals often have minor to moderate special needs and there is a frequent need for adoptive families to adopt sibling groups of two or more. The children typically come from backgrounds marked by significant challenges.

## **Eligibility Requirements**

The Philippines program is only open to prospective applicant families that are Christian. Prospective adoptive parents must be 27 years or older to apply. The minimum age difference should not be less than 16 years (at the time of application), and maximum age gap difference no more than 45 years (at the time of matching). Philippines requires that, if married couples must be married a minimum of 3 years (at the time of dossier submission). Single applicants are eligible to apply for older children in the waiting children program.

## **Process of Adoption**

- Complete all Nightlight application paperwork and a Hague adoption home study.
- Prepare an I-800A application and be granted approval by the United State Citizenship & Immigration Service (USCIS). In the most basic terms, this process grants a pre-approval for you to bring an orphaned child into the U.S. as a citizen.
- Gather documents, which will go through a certification and authentication, process to become your dossier. (We will help you through the certification and authentication process.) This step can be worked on concurrently with the Home Study.
- Once your dossier is submitted to the Philippines, you will be matched by the Philippines central agency National Authority for Child Care (NACC) with a child meeting your preferences outlined in the Home Study. Have the child's medical and social information reviewed by a medical professional and, once you are committed, formally accept the child with NACC. Average time from home study completion to referral is 1-3 years depending on your openness to age and special needs.
- Complete official referral review with Nightlight's Social Services Department
- Prepare an I-800 application and be granted approval by USCIS. This process grants approval for the adoption to move forward and gives permission for the child to immigrate into the U.S. with you as their sponsor.
- Send NACC and/or the orphanage documents as requested for court processing. Upon completion of court processing, the child's passport will be issued.
- Apply for a six month multiple entry tourist visa for Philippines.
- Travel to Philippines. You will pick up your child from their orphanage and travel to the U.S. Embassy in Manila for your medical/visa appointment to obtain an immigrant visa for your child to enter the United States. This trip takes an average of 5-7 days. Some states in the Philippines will require you to be present for court which could lengthen your trip by a couple of weeks.
- Bring your child home from the Philippines!
- Complete post placement reports as required by NACC.

## **Travel Information**

There is one trip required for adoption from Philippines. This trip will bring your child/ren home and is typically 5-7 days in length. Some states in Philippines will require you to be present for court thus lengthening your in country stay by several weeks. You will pick up the child and their documents from the orphanage and then travel to the U.S. Embassy in Manila where you will have your child evaluated at the medical clinic there and obtain their immigrant visa.

## **Post Placement Requirements**

The total number and interval of post placement reports and visits can vary by region, but will be specified on you Philippines court order. The most common is a total of 4 reports according to the following schedule: 1month, 4 months, 6 months, 8 months from U.S. arrival. Nightlight will send these social worker reports to the orphanage and NACC. Once your final report is submitted, the NACC will send the consent to adoption.

**Costs**

The program fee for the Philippines is \$16,500-17,200. Additional costs will include home study, USCIS approval, notary and apostille fees, airfare, hotel, in country guide, and embassy fees as shown on the fee schedule. Your personal expenses may be further minimized if you receive scholarships, grants or employer-provided adoption benefits. For additional fee information, please see Exhibit A. Please call or e-mail Viktoriia Serediuk-Buz, [viktorii@nightlight.org](mailto:viktorii@nightlight.org) or at 317-875-0058.



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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](mailto:info@nightlight.org).

ATTACHMENT A  
 NIGHTLIGHT® CHRISTIAN ADOPTIONS  
 INTERNATIONAL ADOPTIONS – FEES AND ESTIMATED COSTS  
 PHILIPPINES

PROGRAM FEE	COSTS	TOTALS	NOTES
<b>Application Phase</b>		\$500	<i>Due with application.</i>
<b>Nightlight Program Fee #1</b>		\$2,500	<i>Due upon application acceptance</i>
<b>Nightlight Program Fee #2</b>		\$2,500	<i>Due upon completion of the Orientation call</i>
<b>Nightlight Program Fee #3</b>		\$2,700	<i>Due prior to dossier submission to the country</i>
Agency Fee	\$2,500		
Foreign Fee	\$200		<i>Paid to NACC as registration of the adoption application.</i>
<b>Nightlight Program Fee #2</b>		\$8,300-\$9,000	<i>Due upon acceptance of referral</i>
Agency Fee	\$3,000		
Foreign Fee	\$4,500		<i>\$2000/1 child; \$3000 siblings paid to NACC for processing application. \$1500 professional services paid to third parties, \$1000 paid to child care agency</i>
Translation & document expenses	\$800-\$1500		<i>Actual cost dependent on location of child. Amount will be calculated and billed by NACC with placement proposal</i>
<b>Total Program Fee</b>		<b>\$16,500-\$17,200</b>	
OTHER COSTS (ESTIMATED)	COSTS	TOTALS	NOTES
<b>U.S.-Based Fees</b>		<b>\$10,515-\$13,925</b>	
Monitoring and Oversight fee charged by accrediting entity. Per child	\$850		<i>Due upon signing the Agreement for International Services \$850 for each additional child.</i>
Home Study	\$1,500-\$2,500		<i>Costs vary by state/agency</i>
Home Study Supporting Documents	\$100-\$225		<i>Cost for criminal clearances, obtaining physicals, and other misc. expenses</i>
Parent Education/Training	\$100-\$300		<i>Estimated cost of online education courses</i>
Home Study Review Fee	\$300		<i>Review of home study prepared by an agency other than Nightlight</i>
USCIS Filing Fees	\$920		<i>Includes I-800A application and biometrics for all family members.</i>
Home Study/USCIS Update Shipping and Translation Fees	\$25-\$260		<i>Paid to Nightlight when applicable</i>
Psychological Evaluation	\$500-\$1,500		<i>Varies by provider</i>
Dossier Authentication & Courier Fees	\$250-\$500		<i>Varies by state</i>
Translation & Shipping of dossier	\$600		<i>Translation of dossier due to NCA with submission of dossier.</i>
Post Adoption Reports	\$1,200-\$1,600		<i>Costs vary by state/agency</i>
Translation and shipping - of post adoption reports	\$1,500		<i>Cost may vary depending on the number and ages of children you are adopting, due at Referral Phase</i>
Medical Review of Referral	\$0-\$200		<i>Some physicians do not charge for this service. International adoption clinics will usually charge a fee for this.</i>
Attorney fee	\$1500		<i>Paid to attorney in your state to finalize the adoption.</i>
Certificate of Citizenship (COC)	\$1170		<i>Applies to families in guardianship countries, families living abroad, families coming home on an IR4 visa.</i>
<b>Other In-Country Adoption Costs</b>		<b>\$6,453-\$6,703</b>	<i>Estimates are for 2 people and 1 trip</i>
Airfare (2 adults)	\$3,000		<i>Paid directly to airline.</i>
Airfare for child (one way)	\$750-\$1,000		<i>Paid directly to airline.</i>
Visas (for 2 Adults)	\$480		<i>Paid directly to third party.</i>
In Country Travel & Accommodations	\$1,000		<i>Estimated for 2 parents. Includes housing, food, and non-adoption related transportation.</i>
Child's Passport, Visa, Visa Medical Exam, TB test & Documents	\$923		<i>Cost per child. Does not include vaccines</i>
Adoption Documents	\$300		<i>Paid directly to providers while in country. Cost per child</i>
<b>Total Other Costs (Est.)</b>		<b>\$16,968-\$20,628</b>	
<b>TOTAL FEES &amp; ESTIMATED EXPENSES</b>			
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$33,468-\$37,828</b>	

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.

A late fee of 12% annual (1% monthly) will be assessed for fees more than 30 days past due.

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

**Philippines**

<b>SERVICES CATEGORIZED PER HAUGE REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>Philippines</b>
Home Study (including estimated out of pocket costs)	\$1,600 – \$2,725
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)	\$11,850
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)	\$1,500
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.	\$1000
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.	\$1,400 – \$2,100
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.	\$2200
Post placement (PP) and post adoption (PA) reports: the expected total fees and estimated expenses for any PP or PA reports that the agency or parents must prepare to comply with requirements of the expected country of origin (and NCA requirements)	\$2,700 – \$3,100
Travel/Accommodation Expenses: Estimated 2 Adults, 1 child: includes hotel, food, fuel, and airfare estimates.	\$4,750 – \$5,000
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.	\$6,468 – \$8,353

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**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Adopting Parents:** \_\_\_\_\_