

# Nightlight® Christian Adoptions

## International Adoption Program Description

### India



#### GENERAL INFORMATION

The country of India, the largest region of the Indian Subcontinent, extends from the Himalayan Mountains in the north and south into the tropical reaches of the Indian Ocean. It's the most populous democratic country in the world (over 12 billion people) and certainly one of the most interesting. From Indian foods to modes of transportation to colorful clothing, and animals competing with autos on the roadways, India offers a unique perspective on life and the world. India consists of 29 states and New Delhi is the capitol.

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

<https://cara.wcd.gov.in/> : Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA)

<https://in.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/adoption/> : The U.S. Department of State's information on India adoption

<https://www.state.gov/u-s-relations-with-india/> : U.S. Relations with India

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/Intercountry-Adoption/Intercountry-Adoption-Country-Information/India.html> : U.S. travel advisory

#### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Our India program began in Missouri with Love Basket Adoptions in the early 1980's. Love Basket merged with Nightlight in 2015 and brought this wonderful program with them. We work directly with CARA (Central Adoption Resource Authority). We have a long history of successful placements through our India program. Through the years, this program has remained a consistent source of children for the adoptive families we serve.

#### CHILDREN AVAILABLE

Children of all ages are available for adoption from India. More females and children over the age of 2 years tend to be available. Sibling groups and children with varying degrees of special needs are also available. In most cases, we see vast improvements in children with special needs once they are receiving proper medical care and living in a healthy environment.

#### ELIGIBILITY TO ADOPT

India requires that, if married, couples must be married a minimum of 2 years (at the time of Home Study) and a couple with more than 2 children are not eligible unless pursuing a child with special needs. India requires that families keep birth order. Singles are eligible to adopt. The minimum age difference between the child and either of the adoptive parents should not be less than 25 years and the maximum composite age of both parents cannot be over 90 years (this requirement is more flexible if adopting a school age child). All parents should be physically, mentally and emotionally stable; financially capable; motivated to adopt, and should not have any life threatening medical conditions.

#### PROCESS

- 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 India, be matched by India's Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) 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 CARA.
- 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 CARA and/or the orphanage documents as requested for court processing. Upon completion of court processing, the child's birth certificate will be issued.
- Apply for a six month multiple entry tourist visa for India.
- Travel to India. You will pick up your child from their orphanage and travel to the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi for your medical/visa appointment to obtain an immigrant visa for your child to enter the United States. This trip takes an average of 14-16 days. Note: Some states in India will require a longer in country stay.
- Bring your child home from India!
- Complete post adoption reports as required by CARA.

### TRAVEL

There is one trip required for adoption from India. This trip will be to bring your child/ren home and is typically 14-16 days in length. You will pick up the child and their documents from the orphanage and then travel to the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi where you will have your child evaluated at the medical clinic there and obtain their immigrant visa. Nightlight has an in-country representative that will accompany you to all appointments.

### POST ADOPTION

The total number and interval of post adoption reports/visits can vary by state in India but will be specified on your India court order. The most common is a total of 6 reports according to the following schedule: 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months, 18 months and 24 months from U.S. arrival. Nightlight will send these social worker reports, along with photos and citizenship information to the orphanage and CARA.

### COSTS

The program fee for India is \$17,500. Your additional costs will include home study, USCIS approval, notary & apostille fees, airfare, hotel, in country guide, and embassy fees as shown on the fee schedule. Your out-of-pocket expenses may further be reduced if you receive scholarships, grants or employer-provided adoption benefits. For additional fee information please see Exhibit A. Please call or e-mail Yesenia Bastian, [yesenia@nightlight.org](mailto:yesenia@nightlight.org) at 502-423-5780 with any questions.





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christian adoptions

...because every child deserves a loving family

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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 email. 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

**India**

PROGRAM FEE	COSTS	TOTALS	NOTES
<b>Application Fee</b>		\$600	<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>		\$4,900	<i>Due with CARA registration</i>
Agency Fee	\$4,600		
Foreign Fee	\$300		
<b>Nightlight Program Fee #4</b>		\$7,000	<i>Due upon receipt of referral</i>
Agency Fee	\$1,500		
Foreign Fee	\$5,500		<i>Includes care of child expenses. Sibling fee additional \$1000 (for one or more children)</i>
<b>Total Program Fee</b>		<b>\$17,500</b>	
OTHER COSTS (ESTIMATED)	COSTS	TOTALS	NOTES
<b>U.S.-Based Fees</b>		<b>\$6,495 – \$11,065</b>	
<i>Monitoring and Oversight fee charged by accrediting entity. Per child.</i>	\$850		<i>Due upon signing the Agreement for International Services \$850 for each additional child.</i>
<i>Home Study</i>	\$1,500-\$2,500		<i>Costs vary by state/agency</i>
<i>Post Adoption Reports</i>	\$1,800-\$2,400		<i>Costs vary by state/agency</i>
<i>Home study supporting documents</i>	\$225		<i>Cost for criminal clearances, obtaining physicals, and other misc. expenses</i>
<i>Parent Education/Training</i>	\$100-\$300		<i>Estimated cost of online education courses</i>
<i>Home Study Review Fee</i>	\$300		<i>Review of home study prepared by an agency other than Nightlight</i>
<i>Home Study/USCIS update shipping and translation fees</i>	\$0		<i>Not Applicable to India</i>
<i>Psychological Evaluation/2 parents</i>	\$500-\$1000		<i>Varies by provider</i>
<i>USCIS Fees</i>	\$920		<i>Includes I-800A application &amp; biometrics for all family members</i>
<i>Dossier Authentication &amp; courier fees</i>	\$100-\$200		<i>Dossier will be apostilled through the secretary of state. Costs vary by state.</i>
<i>Shipping (Dossier/Additional Documents)</i>	\$200		<i>Paid to Nightlight when applicable</i>
<i>Medical review of referral</i>	\$0-\$200		<i>Some physicians do not charge for this service. Other international clinics will charge a fee for this.</i>
<i>Certificate of Citizenship</i>	\$0-\$1,170		<i>Applies to families in guardianship countries, families living abroad, families coming home on an IR4 visa. Not applicable in some countries.</i>
<i>Dossier prep/state certification for families.</i>	\$0-\$800		<i>NCA offers dossier prep where our staff will gather the dossier documents and send off to the secretary of state for you. \$800 for entire dossier or \$50 per document. These fees do not include shipping or the apostille costs.</i>
<b>Other In-Country Adoption Costs</b>		<b>\$6,620 – \$10,590</b>	<i>Estimates are for 2 people and 1 trip</i>
<i>Airfare (2 adults)</i>	\$3,000-\$5,000		
<i>Airfare for child (one way)</i>	\$1,200-\$1,500		<i>Depends on the child's age.</i>
<i>Visas (for 2 Adults)</i>	\$240		<i>Estimate does not include courier fees</i>
<i>Accommodations &amp; Food</i>	\$630-\$1,750		<i>Based on a 7 day trip</i>
<i>Medical exam &amp; child's immigrant visa</i>	\$350-\$400		
<i>In country transportation</i>	\$200		<i>Varies depending on where your child is located.</i>

<i>In country guide</i>	<i>\$1,000-\$1,500</i>	<i>Due upon notice to travel</i>
<b>Total Other Costs (Est.)</b>	<b>\$13,115 – \$21,655</b>	
<b>TOTAL FEES &amp; ESTIMATED EXPENSES</b>		
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,615-\$39,155</b>	

The cost of operating an international adoption program is substantial and increasing with the additional compliance requirements under the Hague Convention on Intercountry 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  
**India**

<b>SERVICES CATEGORIZED PER HAGUE REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>India</b>
Home Study (including estimated out of pocket costs)	\$1,725 –\$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)	\$11,700
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)	\$800
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.	\$5000 (\$1000 for a sibling)
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.	\$200
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 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)	\$1,800 - \$2,400
Travel/Accommodation Expenses: Estimated 2 Adults, 1 child: includes hotel, food, fuel, and airfare estimates.	\$5,030 – \$8,450
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.	\$4,060 – \$7,080

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