



Nightlight® Christian Adoptions International Adoption Program Description Armenia Adoptions

GENERAL INFORMATION

Armenia is a small, landlocked country located in the South Caucasus region of Eurasia, bordered by Turkey, Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Iran. It has a population of around 3 million people, with Yerevan as its capital and largest city. Armenia is one of the world's oldest countries, with a rich cultural heritage and history that dates back thousands of years—it was the first nation to adopt Christianity as a state religion in 301 AD. The country is known for its mountainous landscapes, ancient monasteries, and enduring traditions. Despite its small size, Armenia has a distinct identity shaped by its language, alphabet, and strong diaspora community around the world. The Central Adoption Authority in Armenia is the Ministry of Justice.

It is helpful to read about your country of interest on the U.S. Department of State website on Inter-Country adoptions:

- www.adoption.state.gov
- moj.am/en/

CHILDREN AVAILABLE

- Children between the ages of 6 months and 16 years are eligible for adoption through Armenia's Central Adoption Authority. However, according to US regulations, USCIS will not process the adoption of a child if the I-800A has not been submitted prior to the child's 16th birthday. We can only assist families who are planning to adopt children under age 16 and they are able to complete their home study and submit USCIS I-800A prior to the child's 16th birthday. Armenian children eligible for intercountry adoption can be expected to have moderate to non-correctable medical and/or developmental diagnoses. Sibling groups are very uncommon in this program.

ELIGIBILITY TO ADOPT

- Applicants must be at least 25 years of age.
- At least 18 years age difference between prospective adoptive parents and the adoptive child, applied to the younger spouse, if married.
- Applicants must be no more than 50 years older than the child at the time of referral, applied to the older spouse, if married.
- Both single and married individuals can adopt.
- Income: Must meet US standards of 125% over poverty and the Central Adoption Authority has an informal bias for higher income families and smaller family size.

PROCESS

1. For a proposed kinship adoption of a relative child, collect all required child documents and provide to Nightlight coordinator (proof of orphan status; parent death certificates or relinquishment of rights; medical evaluation; school and social report)
2. For all adoptions, complete our online application
3. Complete our International Adoption Services Contract & pay the Monitoring and Oversight fee. The Monitoring and Oversight fee is paid to the accrediting entity designated by the US Department of State/Office of Children's Issues, the US Central Authority.
4. Orientation meeting with Nightlight Staff, reviewing the intercountry adoption process through Armenia. Review and return Service Plan.
5. Begin your Home Study with Nightlight or an approved Hague Accredited agency that is identified and approved by Nightlight.
6. Once your Home Study has been completed, Nightlight will review the Home Study and assist you with preparing your I-800A Application for Determination of Suitability to Adopt a Child from a Convention Country: <https://www.uscis.gov/i-800a>.
7. Armenia Dossier: Nightlight will assist you in putting together the packet of documents required by Armenia's Central Adoption Authority.
8. Receive approval of the I-800A.

9. Submit your complete dossier for review by Nightlight, followed by shipment to Armenia, and approval and registration with Armenia's Central Adoption Authority.
10. Referral wait of varying length, depending on the specifics of the child request outlined in the home study.
11. Upon receipt of a referral, Nightlight social services staff will review specific child referral - medical, social, psychological reports with the family.
12. If the referral is accepted, the family travels to Armenia for one week to meet the child and to formally declare the family's intent to adopt the child prior to returning to the US.
13. Complete I-800 application and submit to USCIS – NBC for review. Nightlight will assist with this process.
14. After the approval of the I-800 and issuance of second approval of the case in Armenia, families will travel to Armenia for the court hearing and Visa interview with the US Embassy in Yerevan. This trip usually takes around 3-4 weeks.
15. You will receive a Full and Final Adoption Decree from the Armenian court.
16. Complete US VISA process at the US Embassy (Guidance is provided by Nightlight staff).
17. Complete a minimum of 6 post placement reports once you return home.

TRAVEL & ADOPTION

Families are required to make 2 trips for their adoption. The first trip lasts one week and allows a family to meet the child referred to them and to formally accept the referral. If married, both spouses must travel. Your Foreign Supervised Provider in Armenia will communicate the details with you. The second trip includes the court hearing (if married both spouses must be present), followed by the issuance of the Adoption Decree, Birth Certificate and child's passport as well as the Visa Interview and issuance of the child's visa at the US Embassy in Yerevan. This trip takes 3 to 4 weeks. Upon completion, your child will be able to travel home with you to the US on a full and final adoption decree. Your child will arrive home under a full and final adoption from an Armenia court.

POST PLACEMENT/ADOPTION

Within 30 days of your arrival home, you must have a home visit by your home study provider. Armenia's Central Adoption Authority requires post placement reporting over 5 different calendar years. Reports 3 months home and 6 months home must be social worker generated. The remaining reports at 12 months, 2 years, 3 years and 4 years home are family generated. The apostilled original post-adoption reports must be sent to Nightlight and on to the Central Adoption Authority in Yerevan.

COSTS

The program fee for an adoption from Armenia is \$27,940. 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.

For further information please contact, Abigail Szostak at Abigail@Nightlight.org call (502) 423-5780



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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 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

Armenia

PROGRAM FEE	COSTS	TOTALS	NOTES
Application Phase		\$600	<i>Due with application</i>
Nightlight Program Fee #1		\$2,500	<i>Due upon application acceptance</i>
Nightlight Program Fee #2		\$3,500	<i>Due upon completion of your Orientation call</i>
Nightlight Program Fee #3		\$12,465	<i>Due upon submission of the dossier to Nightlight</i>
<i>Agency Fee</i>	\$8,750		
<i>Foreign Fee</i>	\$1,215		<i>Including Attorney fees and Translator/Admin Support fees</i>
<i>Foreign Central Authority fee</i>	\$2,500		<i>Includes review of the dossier</i>
Nightlight Program Fee #4		\$7,475	<i>Due upon receipt of referral</i>
<i>Agency Fee</i>	\$3,400		<i>\$1,000 each additional sibling</i>
<i>Foreign Fee</i>	\$4,075		<i>Includes final adoption documents \$500 each additional sibling</i>
Nightlight Program Fee #5		\$1,400	<i>Due before travel</i>
Total Program Fee		\$27,940	
OTHER COSTS (ESTIMATED)	COSTS	TOTALS	NOTES
U.S.-Based Fees		\$8,445 – \$12,045	
<i>Monitoring and Oversight fee charged by accrediting entity. Fee 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>	\$1,500-\$2,000		<i>Costs vary by state/agency</i>
<i>Shipping and/or translating of post adoption reports</i>	\$900		<i>Costs vary based on number of children you are adopting, Due upon receipt of referral.</i>
<i>Home study supporting documents</i>	\$225		<i>Cost for criminal clearances, obtaining physicals, and other mis. 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>Paid to Nightlight when applicable</i>
<i>Psychological Evaluation/2 parents</i>	\$0-\$500		<i>Armenia does not generally require a Psychological Evaluation however, may be required by home study agency or could be requested by Nigeria</i>
<i>USCIS Filing Fees</i>	\$920		<i>Includes I-800a application and biometrics for 2 adults</i>
<i>Dossier Apostille/Authentication & courier</i>	\$900-\$1,200		<i>Costs vary by state for notarization.</i>
<i>Shipping/translation of dossier</i>	\$750		<i>Cost reflects shipping and translation of the dossier. Due upon the submission of the dossier to Nightlight</i>
<i>Medical Review of Referral</i>	\$500-\$800		<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		<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>
Other In-Country Adoption Costs		\$12,350 – \$14,350	<i>Estimates are for 2 people and 2 trips for 29 days</i>
<i>Airfare (2 adults)</i>	\$2,500-\$4,000		
<i>Airfare for child (one way)</i>	\$1,000-\$1,500		<i>Depends on the child's age.</i>
<i>Visas (for 2 Adults)</i>	\$0		
<i>Transportation and Accommodations</i>	\$6,000		<i>\$200/day; estimate based on 29 days. Includes private apartment, interpreter/translator service & local transportation. 2 trips (1st trip average 7 days/ 2nd trip average 23 days) Does not included food.</i>
<i>Food Expenses</i>	\$2,250		<i>\$25/day, Included in some guest housing options</i>
<i>Child's medical exam and visa</i>	\$600		<i>Per child</i>
Total Other Costs (Est.)		\$20,795 – \$26,395	
TOTAL FEES & ESTIMATED EXPENSES			
GRAND TOTAL		\$48,735 – \$54,335	

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
Armenia

SERVICES CATEGORIZED PER HAGUE REQUIREMENTS	
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)	\$19,600
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)	\$5,290
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.	\$1,650-\$1,950
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.	\$2,500
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)	\$2,400-\$2,900
Travel/Accommodation Expenses: Estimated 2 Adults, 1 child: includes hotel, food, fuel, and airfare estimates.	\$11,750 – \$13,750
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.	\$3,820 – \$5,620

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