

INFORMATION PACKAGE



THE CHILDREN'S BRIDGE

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APRIL 2018

THE CHILDREN'S BRIDGE ORGANIZATION

The Children's Bridge is a non-profit international adoption agency that was federally incorporated in 1994. To date the organization has assisted over 4,500 families to successfully adopt children internationally.

The Children's Bridge organization has widespread knowledge of provincial legislation and adoption procedures. As well, the agency has facilitated adoptions for families in all provinces across Canada, except for Quebec. It has the expertise to help Canadian families, in and outside of Canada, to adopt internationally.

In considering the addition of a child to a family through adoption, several decisions must be made. The first, and most obvious, is if adoption is right for your family. Discussion with other adoptive families, professionals and adoption agencies should help in this task.

Once a family has made the crucial decision to adopt, the next steps are: arranging for the completion of a home study, selection of an agency to assist with the adoption and completion of an adoption file in province and of an adoption dossier to be sent overseas.

This detailed information package is designed to help families determine the best choices for them. As well, on our website are documents designed to assist you in the selection of your Adoption Practitioner (Questions to ask an Adoption Practitioner) and your adoption agency (Questions to ask a Facilitator).

The Children's Bridge Staff

The Children's Bridge employs staff both in Ottawa and Toronto. Many of the staff are adoptive parents and/or adoptees. For a complete listing of staff including Program Managers, please visit our website at www.childrensbridge.com.

The Children's Bridge receives its legal counsel from Gerald Yemensky, an experienced family law practitioner and adoptive father.

To assist our British Columbia clients wishing to adopt from China, The Children's Bridge has a working agreement with Family Services of Greater Vancouver. This agency provides excellent support and services to our families.

Board of Directors

Our Board of Directors is comprised entirely of volunteer parents who have adopted children through The Children's Bridge. The Board of Directors provides The Children's Bridge with a solid business framework as well as managerial expertise that ensures the highest standard of adoption programs.

Regional Coordinators

Regional Coordinators are volunteers who provide local pre and post adoption support services for prospective adoptive families and adoptive parents. As well, our Coordinators host information sessions, organize special events and coordinate playgroups and other local functions.

SELECTION OF AN ADOPTION AGENCY

With few exceptions, Canadian families who undertake an adoption from another country must work through an adoption organization/agency. The Children's Bridge is committed to providing our families with quality service focusing upon meeting their needs at every stage of the process.

Given the very nature of international adoption, it is absolutely essential that you receive a high level of support and quality service from the agency that you choose. Adoption agencies vary greatly in the number, availability and quality of pre and post adoption services that are offered. Each family has its own individual needs and it is important that the agency you choose meets these needs during the adoption process and throughout your child's life.

The agency assists you with paperwork, travel arrangements and, more importantly, pre and post adoption support services. There are significant differences in the process and facilitation of international adoptions that have an impact on how smoothly and efficiently your adoption proceeds. We encourage families to explore each adoption agency carefully and offer some criteria to assist in your selection (see the document "Questions to ask a Facilitator" located on our website).

Experience, Credentials and Support Services

We recommend that you explore the levels of staffing in the agency, availability of help and support before, during and after your adoption, the experience of the agency in terms of number of adoptions completed and the potential for interaction with other families past and present.

Adoption Logistics

It is important that you are clear on anticipated costs as well as how the agency manages its resources. Check time lines for your chosen program and keep in mind that time lines do not vary by agency, but by program. It is also wise to check on the agency's legal, cultural and support services.

Travel

The arrangements made for you to receive your child are crucial. Please investigate all aspects of this part of the process including information you receive on the child, preparation for the trip, accommodation, costs and in-country support services. For most of our programs, The Children's Bridge chooses to use the expertise of skilled adoption travel guides for our families and we will make all of these arrangements for you.

PRE AND POST ADOPTION SERVICES

The Children's Bridge is committed to providing quality pre and post adoption services that are focused on assisting families throughout the entire adoption process. These services range from helping you choose a program to providing post-adoption services for your family after the adoption is completed. The following are some of the support services currently offered at various locations throughout Canada:

Information Sessions – designed to address specific questions or concerns regarding the adoption process. These free, detailed sessions are organized in a presentation format with a question period and are intended to help you assess the agency's services and decide on the most appropriate program for you.

Family Gatherings, Playgroups, Kids and Teens Clubs – offered to provide an opportunity for children to get together in a child friendly environment and interact with other children whose families are similar to their own. They also allow adoptive parents to network with other families and share information and stories. For prospective adoptive parents, these events are a great chance to meet and learn from the experiences of other families who have adopted using The Children's Bridge.

Guest Speakers and Special Events – The Children's Bridge holds several special events each year at various locations. These events include:

Networking, Picnics and Special Events:

Holiday Celebrations

What Your Family and Friends Need to Know about Adoption

Regional Summer Picnics

Playgroups/Kids Klubs

Connect-A-Kid Mentoring Program

Educational Seminars/Conferences:

Adoption/Adoptee Panel

Keynote Speakers

Homeland Visits for School Age Children

Adoption Camp

Kids Like Me Workshop (children aged 6 – 12)

Kids are Great! Puppet Show

Talking to Your Child about Adoption

Connect-A-Kid (Ottawa and Toronto)

AdopTALK – An Adoption Parenting Workshop (see details below)

Electronic Forums - The Children's Bridge offers several electronic environments that contain additional information and allow you to interact with other adoptive families, both past and present. These resources include:

- General Website – This site is located at www.childrensbridge.com . Further information on programs as well as dates and information on upcoming events and information sessions can be found on this site. As well, we provide pertinent pre-adoption information under the “Pre-adoption Documents” section.
- Member's Website – This site is located at www.childrensbridge.com/members. This site is password protected. You will receive the username and password upon receipt of your membership fee. The site is dynamic in nature and is a great source of timely information and updates. It also contains links to a vast number of resources including other websites and recommended reading materials.
- Chat Lines/Newsletters – The Children's Bridge currently has several chat lines each of which is a forum where you can post messages, upload pictures and files and exchange information with other Children's Bridge members. Currently we have chat lines specifically for each country, one for our single adoptive parents, one for parents with children over the age of 4 and a general chat line for all members.

Post Adoption Consultation Service - The Children's Bridge is pleased to offer our Post Adoption Consultation service for adoptive families that includes: scheduled telephone/skype call, email correspondence and identification of resources specific to the needs of the family, child or youth or the country the child has been adopted from.

The fee for consultation is \$75.00 per hour.

Please note that this fee is not charged for our initial 6 months post adoption follow-up call when The Children's Bridge families are first home from country with their child.

To book a Post Adoption Consultation, please contact Karyn Bakelaar, Darlene Catton or Cathy Murphy.

Information Services - The Children's Bridge is pleased to provide our clients with comprehensive information kits and workshops to help guide you through the adoption process. Some of the information we provide includes:

- Adoption Package - Upon receipt of your membership fee, we will send you a detailed package about the country that you have chosen. This package includes all of the documentation necessary to compile your adoption dossier, a cost breakdown as well as references to resource materials.

- **AdopTALK – An Adoption Parenting Workshop** – This is a mandatory workshop that all first time applicants **MUST** attend, in person, in either Toronto, Ontario or Ottawa, Ontario. Designed to prepare adoptive parents to manage the challenges of becoming first time adoptive parents and to increase their ability to parent proactively and positively, this workshop will include the following components: Coming Home, Health Matters, Bonding and Attachment, Transracial Issues in Adoptive Families, Talking to Your Child about Adoption and Journey of a Lifetime – Trip Preparation.
- **Adoption and Parenting Resource Kit (DVD format)** – Our Resource Kit was designed as a tool for adoptive families. We have compiled over 400 articles from a variety of authors and sources to provide you with a wide array of information on a broad range of adoption and parenting topics. The Kit includes two resource books relevant to your particular adoption and two children’s books. Also included is a fantastic DVD featuring Dee Paddock. Second time adopters will receive a parenting resource package that includes adoption books and a DVD.
- **Immigration Information** – Once your adoption dossier has been completed and submitted to the foreign country, you will receive instructions on how to complete the immigration portion of the adoption.
- **Travel Guide** – This is a detailed guide outlining the travel portion of the adoption process. Information ranging from costs, accommodations and detailed itineraries to restaurant and shopping recommendations are contained in this package.

You will also receive the following publications to keep you up to date on the agency, its programs and the status of your file.

- **Monthly Update** - This is a much-anticipated update written by the Executive Director and Program Managers. It includes information on file status, program development and regional events. The Update is sent via email every third Friday of the month.
- **Newsletter** – The newsletter is a composition of articles, letters and other publications written by staff, adoptive parents and other professionals. This newsletter, produced entirely by volunteers, is published quarterly and will be sent to you upon receipt of your membership fee.

THE HOME STUDY

No matter where a family lives in Canada, or from where they adopt, locally or internationally, a home study is required. The home study will follow the S.A.F.E. (Structured Analysis Family Evaluation) format.

A home study consists of a series of interviews (4-5 sessions), a written report by an Adoption Practitioner (social worker) and supporting documentation such as references, police checks and medical reports. Your Practitioner will advise you of all required paperwork, usually at your first meeting. He/she will meet with you a minimum of four times with at least one visit taking place in your home (in most provinces). While it may feel a bit intrusive, the home study is not a process to fear. The Practitioner’s primary role is to inform and educate you about adoption.

In Ontario (and some other provinces) families must also complete PRIDE (Parent Resources for Information Development and Education) training as part of the home study. Please check with your provincial government for the requirements surrounding PRIDE training.

Visit <http://www.adoptontario.ca/resources.aspx> for a complete listing of upcoming PRIDE workshops in Ontario or contact your local provincial government for a schedule.

Arranging a home study varies from one province to another. In British Columbia, your first step is to contact Choices Adoption and Counselling Services or Families Services of Greater Vancouver. All contact info for these agencies can be found under “Partner Agencies” on our website. In Ontario you can begin with the agency or with an approved Adoption Practitioner (social worker). The Children’s Bridge has a link to the list of approved Practitioners on our web site or you can obtain a list from your provincial Social Services Department or their website. In most other provinces begin by contacting your provincial adoption authorities listed below.

Upon completion of the home study, the Practitioner will forward the report (in Ontario, the completed report is

forwarded to the agency for review and then on to the Ministry of Children and Youth Services) to the Social Services Department for their approval. This approval process takes anywhere from a week in some provinces to 16 weeks in others (this time line is an approximation only).

There is a fee charged for the home study. Clarify costs and to whom monies are owed at the outset of the home study. This too varies from one jurisdiction to another.

PROVINCIAL CONTACTS FOR SOCIAL SERVICES

Alberta Human Services
(780) 427-2048

N.W.T. Adoption Coordinator
(867) 873-7943

British Columbia, Ministry for Children &
Family Development
(604) 660-2866

Ontario Ministry of Children & Youth Services
Adoption Unit
(416) 327-4742

Nova Scotia, Department of Community Services
(902) 424-3205

Manitoba Family Services and Consumer Affairs
(204) 945-6964

Newfoundland/Labrador Department of Child,
Youth and Family Services
(709) 729-5134

Prince Edward Island, Department of Community
Services, Seniors and Labour
(902) 368-4900

Government of **New Brunswick**
Department of Social Development
(506) 444-4516

Government of **Saskatchewan**, Ministry of Social
Services
(306) 787-0717

PROGRAMS

The Children's Bridge is pleased to offer you information on the programs that we are currently licensed to facilitate adoptions from.

Please review the outlines of each of the programs on the following pages to determine the country that best suits your situation and family. You may want to refer to the chart "Countries at a Glance" (in this package) for further consideration.

As well, we suggest you check out our website, www.childrensbridge.com regularly for updates on existing programs and information on exciting new programs.

NEW COUNTRY LICENSE APPLICATIONS

The Children's Bridge researches new possible international adoption programs and once a license is completed, new programs will be announced on our web site.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Health issues must be researched as the health of the children cannot be guaranteed in any of our adoption programs. All of our families are required to attend our AdopTALK parenting series that includes a workshop on health issues that is presented by a practicing physician. Potential health issues that are covered and that you should also research include: malnourishment, effects of institutionalization, Hepatitis, HIV, developmental delays, learning disabilities, fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, physical and sexual abuse and sleep and emotional issues.

Timelines – Every program has a different timeline – be prepared for a minimum of 2 years. Timelines can change at any time and those in this package are estimates only.

Callback Lists – Some countries only allow us to submit a specific number of files each year. If this number has been met, the Program Manager may choose to keep a callback list.

To maintain a position on a list you need to:

- Contact Program Manager to obtain a position on a list
- Have an active CB membership
- Pay an annual fee of \$100 for each list you are on

Concurrent adoptions – Due to the long timelines in the China program, most provincial ministries are agreeable to a family having a file in China while completing a domestic adoption providing certain criteria are met. Few provinces will allow two international adoptions to be completed simultaneously.

Placement of Children – Every provincial ministry has a guideline on the ages and placement of children (i.e. your birth child is 12 months old and you are expecting a referral). Please check with your ministry prior to proceeding with an adoption if you are unsure of these guidelines. The Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services require that there be **18 months** difference in the ages **AND** placement of children in the home.

Fostering while in the process to adopt is generally acceptable by most provincial ministries and some countries. Families should speak with their provincial coordinator **and** their Program Manager **BEFORE** proceeding with the foster care program.

Hold Policy - Applicants may choose to put their file on hold for up to 12 months.

Requirements listed for each country are established by the individual countries and are not those of provincial Ministries or The Children's Bridge. All requirements must be met or a file cannot be submitted.

Please contact the Program Manager of the program you are interested in **prior to proceeding** with any program to schedule your consultation call/meeting, obtain updated information, costs and a current timeline.

FLORIDA, U.S.A. ADOPTION PROGRAM

Program Manager: Karyn Bakelaar, 613-226-2112, Ext. 2
E-mail: karyn.bakelaar@childrensbridge.com

General Information:

- The Children's Bridge is working in partnership with Adoption by Shepherd Care (ASC) and ACF Adoptions (ACF) who are both based in Florida. The Program Manager will determine the particular agency a file will be sent to based on the requirements of the agency and openings available.
- Adoptive family is chosen by an expectant mother/father who wishes to make an adoption plan for their child.
- Children are mainly of African-American descent. To a lesser extent, children who are ethnically biracial, Hispanic and/or Caucasian are sometimes placed for adoption. Families **must** be open to accepting a child of any racial background.
- Infants are placed with adoptive family approximately 10 – 14 days following the birth.
- Adoption is finalized in Florida approximately 6 – 8 months after placement. Family does not need to travel to Florida for finalization, but must be present for the hearing by phone in the presence of a Notary.
- Children will maintain dual citizenship and annual tax returns must be filed annually by the family for the child.
- Time from dossier submission in Florida to receiving a proposed match is *approximately* 9 – 18 months.
- Applicants must be open to semi-open adoptions, as, at a minimum, they will be required to exchange pictures and letters with the birth family through the agency until the child reaches 18. Some situations may allow for more openness.
- Applicants will complete a comprehensive checklist outlining various situations they are open to (i.e. some alcohol use by the birth mother, history of mental illness, unknown birth father, etc.).
- In many situations, the adoptive family will have the opportunity to meet the birth mother/father during their trip to Florida.
- Children with various special needs are also available (i.e. Hep C, HIV, prenatal exposure to possible substance abuse, etc.).
- 3 post-placement reports, completed by an Adoption Practitioner are required during the first 90 days home in order to finalize the adoption.
- In some cases, infants will reside in an interim foster home until placement occurs with the adoptive family.

ADOPTION BY SHEPHERD CARE (ASC)

Requirements:

- Applicants must be over the age of 25 and no older than 52 years old when their dossier is sent to Florida.
- This program is open to married couples only. Couples must have been married for a minimum of 1 year by the time their dossier is received in Florida.
- Applicants who are living common-law, are same sex couples or single applicants are not eligible for this program.
- Applicants must be in sound physical and emotional health. Adoptive applicants must be free of major mental illness such as bipolar disorder, schizophrenia and obsessive-compulsive disorder.
- Applicants must be open to signing an “Exchange Agreement” with the potential birth family. Almost all of the adoptions will be considered, at a minimum, “semi-open”, in that letters and pictures will be exchanged through the agency and available to birth family until the child has reached the age of eighteen (18).
- Some situations may allow for more openness such as prenatal doctor visits, face-to-face visits between the child, adoptive family, and birth family, depending on the specific situation and birth mother’s desires/needs.
- Adoptive families will have the opportunity to meet the birth mother/family after the birth of the baby in most situations.
- Priority is given to applicants who are childless, have known infertility issues, are experiencing secondary infertility or have previously adopted through ASC.
- Family must possess a stable financial portfolio.
- At least one member of the couple **MUST** be a Canadian citizen.
- Both adoptive applicants must be free from criminal record.
- Families must be open to accepting a child of any racial background.
- This program is open to **residents of Ontario** only at this time.

Process:

- Complete consultation with Program Manager – either retain a space in the program or on the callback list, depending on availability.
- Submit ASC’s preliminary application form.
- Completion of home study, PRIDE training and approval in province.
- Compile dossier and family profile booklet.
- Once approval is received and dossier has been compiled, all is notarized and submitted to ASC in Florida.
- Proposed match received and reviewed.

Timelines:

- Completion of home study (average time 3 – 6 months).
- Approval in province varies from 4 – 16 weeks.
- Processing of adoption dossier averages 4 – 6 weeks.
- Review of dossier to placement on “active list” in USA averages 1 – 3 months.
- Wait for proposal approximately 9 – 18 months.
- Travel to Florida approximately 10 – 14 days after birth.
- One trip of 7 – 14 days is required.

ESTIMATED ADOPTION COSTS – FLORIDA - ASC

AGENCY FEES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)	USD	CAD
1 Adoption Facilitation		\$10,000.00
2 Program Development Fee		500.00
3 Post Placement Administration*		2,000.00
4 Annual Administrative Program Fee (for first year file is in process)**		250.00
5 AdopTALK (\$400/person)		800.00
6 Adoption & Parenting Resource Kit		200.00
7 Applicable taxes on above		

*This amount may not cover the total annual cost of post-placement administration, and additional costs will be invoiced by The Children's Bridge accordingly.

**Once the adoption process exceeds one year from retainer date, the administration fee increases to \$1,400CAD plus tax annually until completion/finalization of the adoption process.

DISBURSEMENTS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

General Disbursements	\$400.00
Notarization (plus HST)	50.00

FLORIDA FEES USD (ESTIMATES ONLY)

Preliminary Adoption Application/Consultation	\$ 250.00
International Adoption Processing Fee	3,800.00
Inclusion Fee	850.00
Monitoring & Oversight Fee (IAAME)	500.00
Court Approved Birth Mother Expenses	10,000.00 - 15,000.00
Legal Fees	6,000.00 – 8,000.00
Adoption by Shepherd Care (ASC) Agency Fees	15,300.00
ASC Case Management Fees	10,000 – 17,000.00
Interim Care Fees	250.00 – 500.00

3RD PARTY FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY)

Adoption Practitioner/Social Worker – Home Study (fees fluctuate)	\$3,000.00
Adoption Practitioner Referral/Post Placement Reports (Ontario only - estimate)***	1,500.00
Ministry Mandated PRIDE Training (Ontario families only – approx. cost for 2 people)	1,500.00
Police Clearances (Interpol, local)	150.00
Airfare return (Approx. cost for 2 adults and 1 child)	2,500.00
In-country travel and misc. fees	\$3,000.00 (USD)

***The Referral/Post Placement Reports fee (set by individual Adoption Practitioners and subject to change) is payable to *The Children's Bridge In Trust* at time of home study submission.

Please note: There may be other costs that will vary. All fees are set and charged by third parties and must be paid at the current rate at the time they are due. There is a \$150.00 administrative fee payable to The Children's Bridge for any *additional* (not including adoptive parents and/or siblings) passengers travelling to Florida. As there may be changes from when you initially received this cost information until you submit your fees, please **contact The Children's Bridge immediately prior to fee submission to verify all current costs.**

FEE SCHEDULE – FLORIDA - ASC

(PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SCHEDULE DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL OF THE 3RD PARTY FEES)

<p>To pay some fees securely, on-line with your VISA or MasterCard go to http://www.childrensbridge.com/members/ecommm. Please note an additional credit card fee (Moneris) is charged back to families.</p>			
	Fee	Due Date	Payment Method
Preliminary Adoption Application*	\$250USD	Submitted to ASC before starting home study.	VISA, MasterCard or Money Order (USD) payable to <i>Adoption by Shepherd Care</i> .
Non-refundable Retainer	\$2,000CAD plus applicable taxes	Submitted with signed Retainer.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Program Development Fee	\$500CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Adoption & Parenting Resource Kit	\$200CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
AdopTALK	\$400CAD/per person plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Admin. Fee	\$250CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Total of Above 5 Items:	\$4,237.50CAD tax included	Due with signed Retainer.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque.
Referral/Post Placement Fees	As indicated by A/P	At time of home study submission.	Cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge In Trust</i> .
Balance of Adoption Facilitation Fees	\$8,000CAD plus applicable taxes	Sent with completed country dossier.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Disbursements	\$400CAD	As above.	As above.
Notarization	\$50CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Total of Above 3 Items:	\$9,496.50CAD tax included	Sent with completed dossier.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque.

Continued . . .

FEE SCHEDULE – FLORIDA - ASC - CONTINUED

(PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SCHEDULE DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL OF THE 3RD PARTY FEES)

	Fee	Due Date	Payment Method
Inclusion Fee*	\$850USD	Sent with completed country dossier.	VISA, MasterCard, US Bank Draft or money order payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Monitoring & Oversight Fee (IAAME)	\$500USD	As above.	As above.
International/Canadian Adoption Processing Fee*	\$3,800USD	As above.	As above.
Total of Above 2 Items:	\$5,150.00USD	Sent with completed dossier.	VISA, MasterCard, US draft or money order.
Escrow Payment* (to be topped up as necessary, situation dependent)	\$10,000 - \$15,000USD	Sent with accepted proposed match.	VISA, MasterCard, US Bank Draft or money order payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Post Placement Administration	\$2,000CAD plus applicable taxes (\$2,260CAD)	Due with accepted child proposal.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
ASC Agency Fees*	\$15,300USD	Prior to travel following birth of child.	VISA, MasterCard, US Bank Draft or money order payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
ASC Legal Fees* (to be topped up as necessary, situation dependent)	\$6,000 - \$8,000 USD	As above.	As above.
ASC Case Management Fees*	\$10,000 - \$17,000USD	As above.	As above.
Interim Care Fees	\$250-\$500USD	As above.	As above.
Annual Admin. Fee	\$1,400CAD plus applicable taxes	Invoiced annually once the adoption process exceeds one year from retainer date until completion of adoption process.	As above.

*Fees related to Adoption by Shepherd Care (ASC).

Note: A complete breakdown of ASC agency fees is available upon request.

ACF ADOPTIONS

Requirements:

- There are no set age restrictions.
- This program is open to married couples, single applicants and same sex applicants.
- Applicants must be in sound physical and emotional health. Adoptive applicants must be free of major mental illness such as bipolar disorder, schizophrenia and obsessive-compulsive disorder.
- Applicants must be open to signing an “Exchange Agreement” with the potential birth family. Almost all of the adoptions will be considered, at a minimum, “semi-open”, in that letters and pictures will be exchanged through the agency and available to birth family until the child has reached the age of eighteen (18).
- Some situations may allow for more openness such as prenatal doctor visits, face-to-face visits between the child, adoptive family, and birth family, depending on the specific situation and birth mother’s desires/needs.
- Adoptive families may have the opportunity to meet the birth mother/family after the birth of the baby in most situations.
- Family must possess a stable financial portfolio.
- At least one member of the couple **MUST** be a Canadian citizen.
- Both adoptive applicants must be free from criminal record.
- Families must be open to accepting a child of any racial background.
- This program is open to **residents of Ontario** only (exceptions may apply, please contact Program Manager for more details).

Process:

- Complete consultation with Program Manager – either retain a space in the program or on the callback list, depending on availability.
- Submit ACF’s preliminary application form.
- Completion of home study, PRIDE training and approval in province.
- Compile dossier and family profile booklet.
- Once approval is received and dossier has been compiled, all is notarized and submitted to ACF in Florida.
- Proposed match received and reviewed.

Timelines:

- Completion of home study (average time 3 – 6 months).
- Approval in province varies from 4 – 16 weeks.
- Processing of adoption dossier averages 4 – 6 weeks.
- Review of dossier to placement on “active list” in USA averages 1 – 3 months.
- Wait for proposal approximately 9 – 18 months.
- Travel to Florida approximately 10 – 14 days after birth.
- One trip of 7 – 14 days is required.

ESTIMATED ADOPTION COSTS – FLORIDA - ACF

AGENCY FEES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)	USD	CAD
1. Adoption Facilitation		\$10,000.00
2. Program Development Fee		500.00
3. Post Placement Administration*		2,000.00
4. Annual Administrative Program Fee (for first year file is in process)**		250.00
5. AdopTALK (\$400/person)		800.00
6. Adoption & Parenting Resource Kit		200.00
7. Applicable taxes on above		

*This amount may not cover the total annual cost of post-placement administration, and additional costs will be invoiced by The Children’s Bridge accordingly.

**Once the adoption process exceeds one year from retainer date, the administration fee increases to \$1,400CAD plus tax annually until completion/finalization of the adoption process.

DISBURSEMENTS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

General Disbursements	\$400.00
Notarization (plus HST)	50.00

FLORIDA FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY)

ACF Preliminary Application and Consultation	\$1,000.00
ACF Pre-Match Case Management & Advertising	2,000.00
ACF Adoption Program Fee & Intercountry Fee	25,000.00
Estimated Birth Parent Expenses	9,000.00 - 15,000.00
Monitoring & Oversight Fee (IAAME)	500.00

3RD PARTY FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY)

Adoption Practitioner/Social Worker – Home Study (fees fluctuate)	\$3,000.00
Adoption Practitioner Referral/Post Placement Reports (Ontario only - estimate)***	1,500.00
Ministry Mandated PRIDE Training (Ontario families only – approx. cost for 2 people)	1,500.00
Police Clearances (Interpol, local)	150.00
Airfare return (Approx. cost for 2 adults and 1 child)	2,500.00
In-country travel and misc. fees	\$3,000.00

***The Referral/Post Placement Reports fee (set by individual Adoption Practitioners and subject to change) is payable to *The Children's Bridge In Trust* at time of home study submission.

Please note: There may be other costs that will vary. All fees are set and charged by third parties and must be paid at the current rate at the time they are due. There is a \$150.00 administrative fee payable to The Children's Bridge for any *additional* (not including adoptive parents and/or siblings) passengers travelling to Florida. As there may be changes from when you initially received this cost information until you submit your fees, please **contact The Children’s Bridge immediately prior to fee submission to verify all current costs.**

FEE SCHEDULE – FLORIDA - ACF

(PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SCHEDULE DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL OF THE 3RD PARTY FEES)

To pay some fees securely, on-line with your VISA or MasterCard go to http://www.childrensbridge.com/members/ecommm . Please note an additional credit card fee (Moneris) is charged back to families.			
	Fee	Due Date	Payment Method
Non-refundable Preliminary Adoption Application and Consultation*	\$1,000USD	Submitted to ACF with application and before starting home study.	VISA, MasterCard or Money Order (USD) payable to “ <i>The Children’s Bridge In Trust</i> ”.
Non-refundable Pre-Match Case Management & Advertising*	\$2,000USD	Submitted within 5 days of consultation.	As above.
Non-refundable CB Retainer	\$2,000CAD plus applicable taxes	Submitted with signed Retainer.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Program Development Fee	\$500CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Adoption & Parenting Resource Kit	\$200CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
AdopTALK	\$400CAD/per person plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Admin. Fee	\$250CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Total of Above 5 Items Only:	\$4,237.50CAD tax included	Due with signed Retainer.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque.
Referral/Post Placement Fees	As indicated by A/P	At time of home study submission.	Cheque payable to “ <i>The Children's Bridge In Trust</i> ”.
Balance of Adoption Facilitation Fees and Notarization	\$8,050CAD plus applicable taxes	Sent with completed country dossier.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Disbursements	\$400CAD	As above.	As above.
Monitoring & Oversight Fee (IAAME)	\$500 USD	As above.	VISA, MasterCard or Money Order (USD) payable to “ <i>The Children’s Bridge In Trust</i> ”.

Continued . . .

FEE SCHEDULE – FLORIDA ACF CONTINUED

(PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SCHEDULE DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL OF THE 3RD PARTY FEES)

	Fee	Due Date	Payment Method
Total of Above 3 Items:	\$9,496.50CAD tax included plus \$500USD	Sent with completed dossier.	As outlined above.
½ ACF Adoption Program Fee & Inter-country Fee*	\$12,500USD	Upon acceptance of match, prior to travel.	VISA, MasterCard or USD Money Order payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
ACF Total Estimated Birth Parent Expenses & Court Fees*	\$9,000 - \$15,000USD	As above.	As above.
Post Placement Administration	\$2,000CAD plus applicable taxes (\$2,260CAD)	Due with accepted child proposal.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge In Trust</i> .
Balance of ACF Adoption Program Fee & International Processing Fee* and Misc. Fees (if applicable)	\$12,500USD (plus any misc. fees)	Prior to travel following birth of child.	VISA, MasterCard or USD Money Order payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Annual Admin. Fee	\$1,400CAD plus applicable taxes	Invoiced annually once the adoption process exceeds one year from retainer date until completion of adoption process.	As above.

*Fees related to ACF Adoptions.

Note: A complete breakdown of ACF agency fees is available upon request.

HIV + KIDS ADOPTION PROGRAM

Program Manager: Karyn Bakelaar, 613-226-2112, Ext. 2
E-mail: karyn.bakelaar@childrensbridge.com
Web: <http://www.childrensbridge.com/pages/hivandkids.html>

General Information:

- The HIV+ Kids Adoption Program is run in conjunction with many of the adoption programs The Children's Bridge facilitates adoptions from. Some of these programs include (but are not limited to): India, Florida, China and Zambia.
- Families in process to adopt an HIV+ child from other Canadian adoption agencies can also access the supports and resources the HIV+ Kids Program offers for a small one-time fee.

Considerations:

- Some countries have less stringent requirements if the adoptive families is open to special needs – check with the Adoption Program Manager of the country you hope to adopt from to see if this applies to your situation.
- Families must live within driving distance, or be willing to make frequent trips to, of a major centre that offers specialized pediatric HIV/AIDS care and support
- Many private drug benefit companies cover ARV's and other necessary care. Other resources on provincial drug benefit programs can be found at: http://www.drugcoverage.ca/p_benefit_on.asp#1

Programs:

- **India** – all ages of children living with HIV are waiting for families - some program requirements may be waived. Please contact Karyn Bakelaar for more information at Karyn.bakelaar@childrensbridge.com.
- **China** – we are currently working with an orphanage in China that is able to place children living with HIV into adoptive families. For further information, please contact Cathy Murphy at cathy.murphy@childrensbridge.com.

Supports:

- Lending Library – Members have access to resources stocked in The Children's Bridge Lending Library such as books and articles on issues such as: Pediatric HIV treatment and care, Disclosure and Confidentiality, Childcare and HIV, etc. For a complete list of resources on HIV please email Karyn.bakelaar@childrensbridge.com
- Mentoring Program – This mentoring program is currently under development but aims to link families who are already parenting children living with HIV with those who are in the process.
- Access to educational courses and online support forums

Process:

- Attend a Children's Bridge Information Session (<http://www.childrensbridge.com/pages/infoseminars.html>)
- Become a Member of The Children's Bridge;
- Request a copy of the HIV+ Kids Adoption program Booklet
- Choose a country program that you would like to adopt from and that you meet all of the requirements for.
- Read, research and make connections! If you would like more information or additional resources regarding adopting a child who is living with HIV, please contact the HIV Program Manager, Karyn Bakelaar, at karyn.bakelaar@childrensbridge.com.

➤ Set up a time for your screening phone-call. All families considering adopting a child with special needs must first set-up a screening appointment with the HIV Adoption Program Manager, Karyn Bakelaar, at karyn.bakelaar@childrensbridge.com, as well as the Program Manager from the country from which they wish to adopt. The purpose of this phone call is to:

- ✎ To discuss the implications of adopting a child with special needs;
- ✎ To ensure adoption, and more specifically special needs adoption, will be a good fit for your family;
- ✎ To provide you with additional resources and information you may require before choosing to proceed;
- ✎ To begin the screening process you must hold a current Children's Bridge membership;
- ✎ Ensure you meet the requirements for the country from which you hope to adopt, Canadian citizenship and immigration, as well as requirements your province of residence has for prospective adoptive parents;
- ✎ Receive and read the required reading and make an appointment for your screening appointment/conference call;

If you are adopting as a couple, **BOTH** members of the couple must take part in the entire screening process. The phone call will take approximately 20-30 minutes. If you are in the Ottawa area, and in person appointment is highly recommended.

Please note: This appointment is for a **screening appointment only**. We will not be able to provide retainers, nor guarantee you a spot in the adoption program of your choice at the time of your call or visit.

Basic Information about HIV and adoption

- 📌 “HIV” stands for “Human Immunodeficiency Virus”. HIV is a virus that attacks healthy immune system cells, because it needs cells of a living (human) organism to reproduce.
- 📌 HIV is **not** transmitted through sweat, tears, nasal mucous, saliva, feces, urine, shaking hands, kissing, insect bites, sharing cups, utensils, plates or food.
- 📌 HIV **is** transmitted through sexual fluids, blood and breast milk.
- 📌 The common cold virus can survive outside the body for **up to 72 hours**. The HIV virus can survive outside the body **for minutes**, or at the very most in a controlled laboratory setting, for up to two hours.
- 📌 From clinical experience up until this point, the average lifespan of a North American child who is HIV+ and is on antiretroviral medication (ARV's) is roughly the same as an uninfected child/adult in North America.
- 📌 Children living with HIV can be adopted through many of our adoption programs.
- 📌 Most of the adoption process does not change, although your home study will need to specify your openness to HIV.
- 📌 Adoptive families who are considering adopting a child living with HIV should research the following issues:
 - Disclosure
 - Anti-retroviral's (ARV's) and pediatric HIV care
 - Health care and drug coverage
 - Stigma and discrimination

If you would like more information or additional resources regarding adopting a child who is living with HIV, please contact the HIV Program Manager, Karyn Bakelaar, at karyn.bakelaar@childrensbridge.com .

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

Adoption Program Manager: Karyn Bakelaar, 613-226-2112 Ext. 2

Email: karyn.bakelaar@childrensbridge.com

General Information:

- All prospective adoptive families must first complete a *Consultation Appointment* (in-person or via telephone) with the Zambia Program Manager before undertaking an adoption from Zambia.
- Children will be a minimum of 12 – 18 months of age at time of referral.
- Both boys and girls may be adopted, as well as sibling groups and older children.
- Families may adopt children with various correctible special needs or other special medical needs such as HIV or Hepatitis A or B.
- Children are tested in Zambia for HIV (ELISA), Hepatitis A and B, Tuberculosis (TB Mantoux testing) and VDRL conditions.
- Socio-economic conditions and/or the HIV/AIDS pandemic are the main reason that children are waiting for families.

Considerations:

- One trip lasting an *estimated* six (6) – seven (7) **months** is required to complete an adoption from Zambia. **There are no exceptions to this requirement.** Families may begin collecting *Parental Leave* through *Employment Insurance* (if applicable) once family has custody of the child in Zambia.
- Children reside in orphanages or places of safety until being placed with an adoptive family.
- Six post placement reports are required – 3 completed by the Adoption Practitioner and 3 by the family (over a 2 year period).

Requirements:

- Married couples are eligible to adopt from Zambia. Couples must be able to show they are in a stable relationship and have been married for a minimum of **one year** when their dossier is submitted to Zambia.
- **Single women** are also permitted to adopt from Zambia.
- Neither single male applicants, common-law or same-sex couples are eligible to adopt from Zambia at this time.
- Prospective adoptive parents must be at least twenty-five (25) years of age at time of dossier submission. If the adoptive applicants are applying as a couple, at least one parent must be a minimum of 25 years old and the second applicant must be at least 21 years older than the child they plan to adopt. In the case of relative adoptions, the applicant(s) must be a minimum of 21 years old.
- Applicants must be in sound physical and emotional health.
- Family must possess a stable financial portfolio.
- This adoption program is open to residents in all provinces in Canada (except for Quebec).
- Prospective adoptive applicants are *strongly* encouraged to consider how much cultural, racial and ethnic diversity is represented in their city, province and/or area. This issue will be discussed during the consultation appointment with the Zambia Program Manager.
- Applicants must be free from criminal record.
- At least one applicant must be a Canadian citizen.

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA CONTINUED

Residency Requirements:

- Prospective adoptive families must reside in Lusaka, Zambia in order to complete the (minimum) 3-month **mandatory** fostering period.
- Once completed, prospective families should allow for an additional two (2) – five (5) months in Zambia in order to finalize their adoption in Zambian High Court, and then to obtain all of the necessary travel documentation for the child.

Process:

- Contact the Zambia Adoption Program Manager to arrange a time for your consultation appointment. If applying as a couple, *both applicants* must be available during the appointment.
- Complete a home study with an approved Adoption Practitioner, as well as PRIDE training (Ontario applicants only).
- Assemble Zambia dossier and submit it to The Children's Bridge.
- Attend the mandatory AdopTALK educational parenting workshop.
- Complete Part One of the Citizenship or Immigration Sponsorship application.
- Receive child proposal – meet with Adoption Practitioner and family physician to review documentation available.
- Travel to Zambia to begin the *mandatory* 3-month fostering period.
- Attend *Adoption Hearing* to finalize the adoption.
- Gather child's documentation and travel paperwork in order to travel home to Canada.

Timeline:

- Home study completion varies (average time 3 – 4 months).
- Approval in province ranges from 4 to 16 weeks.
- **Approximate** time from dossier submission to Zambia and receipt of a child's proposal is **estimated** to be to twelve (12) months to twenty-four (24) months. **Please note** that this is an **estimate only** and will vary according to prospective family's range of age acceptance, as well as applicants' openness to various special needs, sibling groups, etc. .
- Travel to Zambia occurs approximately 6 – 10 weeks after referral.

ESTIMATED ADOPTION COSTS – ZAMBIA

AGENCY FEES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)	USD	CAD
1. Adoption Facilitation		\$10,000.00
2. Addition child/sibling (if applicable)		1,500.00
3. Program Development Fee		500.00
4. Post Placement Administration		2,000.00
5. Annual Administrative Program Fee (for first year file is in process)*		250.00
6. AdopTALK (\$400/person)		800.00
7. Adoption & Parenting Resource Kit		200.00
8. Applicable taxes on above		

*Once the adoption process exceeds one year from retainer date the annual administration fee increases from \$250.00CAD to \$1,400.00CAD plus tax **annually** until completion of the adoption process.

DISBURSEMENTS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

General Disbursements		500.00
Provincial Legalization and Authentication (plus applicable taxes)		200.00
Notarization (plus applicable taxes)		200.00

ZAMBIA IN-COUNTRY FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY – USD)

In-country Coordinator	\$2,000.00
CCASZ Processing Fee	6,000.00
Additional child/sibling	500.00

ZAMBIA 3RD PARTY FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY – SUBJECT TO CHANGE - USD)

In-Zambia Fees	\$350 - \$500*
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*This estimate is based on the adoption of a single child.

The above fee is an estimate of the costs of completing your adoption while in Zambia and include (but are not solely limited to): fostering fee, adoption court hearing fee, obtaining a new birth certificate, passport, adoption registration and other identity documents, police clearances, courier fee to Pretoria for immigration purposes, etc.

ZAMBIA 3RD PARTY FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY – SUBJECT TO CHANGE - USD)

Legal Fees (if applicable)	\$2,000.00- 4,000.00
Accommodation (approximately \$1,200 - \$1,600/month)	8,400.00 – 10,000.00
Food and transportation (approximately \$1,000.00/month)	6,000.00
Incidentals (internet, phone, extra travel in Zambia)	Varies

For a currency conversion calculator please see: www.xe.com/ucc/convert.cgi

ESTIMATED ADOPTION COSTS – ZAMBIA CONTINUED

CAD

CANADIAN 3RD PARTY FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY – SUBJECT TO CHANGE – CAD)

Adoption Practitioner/Social Worker - Home Study (fees fluctuate across Canada)	\$3,500.00
Referral Review/Post Placement Reports	1,500.00
Ministry Mandated PRIDE Training (Ontario families only – approx. cost for 2 people)	1,500.00
Immigration Sponsorship/Citizenship application (per child)	150.00
Police Clearances (Interpol, local)	150.00
Airfare return (approximately \$2,000/person)	4,000.00
Taxes on airfare for child (if child is over age 2, airfare increases to 75% of full fare)	500.00

Please note the following:

- ✓ As fees at times fluctuate and are often paid to third parties, please contact The Children's Bridge **immediately prior to submitting fees when due to verify all current costs.** For clients who wish to adopt twins or siblings, extra costs will apply – please contact the Program Manager for estimates of these fees.
- ✓ All fees related to the Zambia Adoption Program will be invoiced to the family directly by The Children's Bridge. All fees related to the Zambia Adoption Program **must** be paid to *The Children's Bridge in Trust*, and will be disbursed by The Children's Bridge to relevant parties, in accordance with our Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) provincial licensing requirements.

FEE SCHEDULE – ZAMBIA

(PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SCHEDULE MAY NOT INCLUDE ALL OF THE 3RD PARTY FEES)

To pay some fees securely, on-line with your VISA or MasterCard go to <http://www.childrensbridge.com/members/ecommm>.
Please note an additional credit card fee (Moneris) is charged back to families.

	Fee	Due Date	Payment Method
Non-refundable Retainer	\$2,000CAD plus applicable taxes	Due with signed retainer, upon home study submission or to secure space in the program (following consultation call).	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to “ <i>The Children’s Bridge in Trust</i> ”.
Program Development Fee	\$500CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Adoption & Parenting Resource Kit	\$200CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
AdopTALK	\$800CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Admin. Fee	\$250CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Total of Above 5 Items:	\$4,237.50CAD tax included	Due with signed Retainer.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque.
Referral review & post placement report fee	As indicated by AP	At time of home study submission	Cheque payable to “ <i>The Children's Bridge In Trust</i> ”.
Balance of Adoption Facilitation, Legalization and Notarization	\$8,400CAD plus applicable taxes	Due upon submission of completed country dossier.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Disbursements	\$500CAD	As above.	As above.
Part 1 CCASZ Fee	\$3,000USD	As above.	Payable by certified cheque or bank draft in USD to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Total of Above Items:	\$9,992CAD tax included plus \$3,000USD plus A/P fees	Sent with completed dossier.	See payment instructions above.
Part 2 CCASZ Processing Fee	\$3,000USD	Due upon acceptance of a child’s proposal.	Certified cheque or bank draft in USD payable to “ <i>The Children’s Bridge in Trust</i> ”.
In-country Coordinator Fee	\$2,000USD	As above.	As above.

FEE SCHEDULE – ZAMBIA CONTINUED

(PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SCHEDULE MAY NOT INCLUDE ALL OF THE 3RD PARTY FEES)

To pay some fees securely, on-line with your VISA or MasterCard go to <http://www.childrensbridge.com/members/ecommm>.
Please note an additional credit card fee (Moneris) is charged back to families.

	Fee	Due Date	Payment Method
Post Placement Administration (agency fee)	\$2,000CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Additional Child Fees (if applicable)	\$1,500CAD plus applicable tax and \$500USD	Due upon acceptance of children's proposal.	As above.
Total of Above Items	\$5,000USD plus \$2,260CAD plus additional child fees (if applicable)	Due upon acceptance of child's proposal.	See payment instructions above.
Annual Admin. Fee	\$1,400CAD plus applicable taxes	Invoiced annually once the adoption process exceeds one year from retainer date until completion of adoption process.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .

SOUTH KOREA

Adoption Program Manager: Maria Fulford, 613-226-2112 Ext. 4
Email: maria.fulford@childrensbridge.com

Please note: Please contact Maria prior to proceeding as a pre-screening interview is required.

General Information:

- Korea has been involved in international adoption since the 1950's.
- This program is open to ONTARIO residents only.
- The Social Welfare Society (SWS) will place a limited number of children with our agency. This quota can change each year.
- Korea will place children of mixed ethnicity, if available; however this must be indicated in the home study and Letter of Application.

Considerations:

- Single parenthood is a common reason that there are children waiting for families in Korea.
- The majority of the children will be up to 18 months of age at referral and up to 24 months at placement.
- After birth, children are cared for by their birthmother in hospital for one week. Children are then placed in one of the SWS Baby Reception Homes until a professional foster home is found for the child, typically at 4 to 8 months of age.
- Both boys and girls (mostly boys) are waiting for families but a family cannot specify gender.
- Comprehensive health information is provided with referral along with a history of the child and some familial information as well.
- Adoption is finalized in Korea.
- Neither Korea nor the Ministry of Children and Youth Services will permit placement of a baby if the couple is pregnant or has a baby less than 18 months of age.
- Adoptive applicants must be willing to adopt a child with some minor and correctable medical health issues. Applicants must complete a detailed Child Medical Conditions Checklist.
- The applicants must be open to accepting some recreational alcohol or cigarette smoking in the social and medical histories understanding that we only know what the birth mother chooses to disclose.
- The applicants are aware that the child may be placed with them from foster care in Korea.
- The applicants are aware that a child presented to them in an international adoption will have a limited medical and social history and are aware of the risks inherent in this.

Requirements:

- Adoptive applicants must be over 25 and under 45 years of age at time of child placement (please consult with Program Manager prior to proceeding if either applicant is in the 41 – 42 age range). We cannot accept applications if the applicants are 43+ years of age.
- If both applicants are of Korean background, one is a Korean adoptee OR they have already completed an adoption from Korea, they can be under 50 years of age at time of child placement. We cannot accept applications if the applicants are 48+ years of age. Consult Program Manager if either applicant is 48+ years of age.
- Must be married for a minimum of 3 years. NO single applicants or same sex couples accepted.
- Must have a minimum of high school education and no more than 4 children in the home.
- ONE divorce permitted for each applicant.
- At least one of a couple MUST be a Canadian citizen.
- Must have completed psychological testing before home study is complete as your Adoption Practitioner will require the results to finish his/her report.
- Second time adopters (from Korea) are required to complete psychological testing if it wasn't done for their first adoption.
- Cannot be notably overweight (Body Mass Index (BMI) cannot exceed 30. Go to www.nhlbisupport.com/bmi to calculate your BMI).

SOUTH KOREA CONTINUED

Requirements:

- Cannot have more than one child from a country other than South Korea. Children in the home should be physically and emotionally healthy.
- Cannot have: history of serious medical condition, chronic illnesses, infectious or degenerative diseases, seizure disorder or severe physical disabilities or deformities. No history of mental health diagnosis or treatment with or without psychotropic medications, or history of counselling at any time.
- Chronic treatable medical issues may be considered on an individual basis. Stable and mild conditions, such as: migraines, allergies, hypothyroidism, hyperthyroidism, asthma, and benign heart conditions where no treatment is recommended may be allowed (please contact Program Manager if clarification is required).
- No arrest history.
- Applicants' combined family income must be over \$50,000 gross annually. This may be reviewed by SWS if there are currently children in the home and the gross income is close to \$50,000 annually.
- South Korea is conservative in terms of racial and religious diversity. If your family has a diverse composition please contact us to determine if the Korea program will be an option for your family.

Process:

- Complete a pre-screening interview with the Program Manager.
- Completion of a home study and approval in Ontario.
- File sent to Korea and proposal received by The Children's Bridge.
- Paperwork can be no more than 6 months old from the date on the paperwork when sent to Korea.
- Two trips required. First trip for court appearance and **both adoptive parents must attend**.
- Child's travel visa will be issued once the adoption is finalized and confirmed (approx. 6 – 8 weeks after court appearance).
- Second trip after visa/ready to travel is issued and only one parent must travel.
- Family must apply for child's Canadian citizenship as soon as they arrive back in Canada with their child's Adoption Order. Family will send The Children's Bridge a copy of the Canadian citizenship certificate so that the adoption file can be closed in Korea.
- Four post placement reports required (over 12 months) including 3 home visits with the Adoption Practitioner.

Timelines:

- Home study completion varies (average time 3 – 4 months).
- Approval in Ontario takes between 4 and 16 weeks.
- Receipt of referral takes anywhere from 3 - 10 months.
- Emigration Permission and adoption finalization in Korea can take up to 6 months after referral is accepted.
- First trip to Korea for court appearance 6 – 8 months after referral acceptance sent to Korea. Court will approve the adoption about 5 business days (estimated) after court hearing. Following this, the 2 week revocation period begins.
- Adoption finalized/Adoption Order confirmed approximately 2 weeks after revocation period is over.
- Issuance of travel notice takes 6 – 8 weeks after revocation period and the Adoption Order have been issued (providing we are within quota for the year). One parent minimum must then travel to receive their child.
- Apply for Canadian Citizenship IMMEDIATELY once you arrive in Canada. CIC can take anywhere from 6 to 24 months to process this application.

All timelines listed above are estimates only and cannot be guaranteed.

ESTIMATED ADOPTION COSTS - SOUTH KOREA

AGENCY FEES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)	USD	CAD
1. Adoption Facilitation		\$10,000.00
2. Program Development Fee		500.00
3. Post Placement Administration		1,500.00
4. Annual Administrative Program Fee (for first year file is in process)*		250.00
5. AdopTALK (\$400/person)		800.00
6. Adoption & Parenting Resource Kit (reduced fee for those completing additional adoptions)		200.00
7. Applicable taxes on above		

**Once the adoption process exceeds one year from retainer date, the administration fee increases to \$1,400CAD plus tax annually until completion/finalization of the adoption process.

DISBURSEMENTS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Provincial Legal Notarization (plus applicable taxes) (if using CB lawyer)	\$	200.00
General Disbursements		400.00

Please note: In order to maintain a position on our callback list you must have an active Children's Bridge membership. In addition, an annual fee of \$100 will be applied.

KOREA FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY)

Social Welfare Society (SWS) (<i>payable in CAD by money order or certified cheque to The Children's Bridge who will then wire the payment to SWS</i>)	\$22,300.00
Accommodation Costs (if staying at Guest House) \$560.00 (<i>payable in US cash to the SWS</i>)	
South Korean Family Court (fee to be set by South Korean authorities)	TBD
Central Korean Adoption Authority (fee to be set by South Korean authorities)	TBD

3RD PARTY FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY)

Adoption Practitioner/Social Worker - Home Study (estimate only)	3,000.00
Adoption Practitioner - Referral/Post Placement Reports (estimate only)*	1,200.00
Ministry Mandated PRIDE Training (Ontario families only – approx. cost for 2 people)	1,500.00
Psychological Testing (estimate only for 2 people – insurance may cover some fees)	1,500 – 3,000
Immigration Sponsorship	150.00
Police Clearances for 2 (Interpol, R.C.M.P., local)	150.00
Airfare return – 1 st Trip (Approx. – both parents must travel)	4,000.00
Airfare return – 2 nd Trip (Approx. – 1 – 2 adults and child)	6,000.00
Hotel in Seoul (if not staying at Guest House)	\$150 - \$200/night

*The Referral/Post Placement Reports fee (set by individual Adoption Practitioners) is payable to The Children's Bridge In Trust at time of home study submission.

Please note: There may be other costs that will vary. All fees are set and charged by third parties and must be paid at the time they are due. There is a \$150.00 administrative fee payable to The Children's Bridge for any *additional* (not including adoptive parents and/or siblings) passengers travelling to South Korea. As there may be changes from when you initially received this cost information until you submit a dossier, please **contact The Children's Bridge immediately prior to document submission to verify all current fees.**

FEE SCHEDULE SOUTH KOREA

(PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SCHEDULE DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL OF THE KOREA FEES OR 3RD PARTY FEES)

To pay some fees securely, on-line with your VISA or MasterCard go to <http://www.childrensbridge.com/members/ecom>. Please note an additional credit card fee (Moneris) is charged back to families.

	Fee	Due Date	Payment Method
Non-refundable Retainer	\$2,000 plus applicable taxes	Submitted with signed Retainer.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Program Development Fee	\$500CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Adoption & Parenting Resource Kit	\$200CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
AdopTALK	\$800CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Admin. Fee	\$250CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Total of Above Items:	\$4,237.50CAD tax included	Due with signed Retainer.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque.
Referral/Post Placement	As indicated by A/P	At time of home study submission.	Cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge In Trust</i> .
Balance of Adoption Facilitation Fees and Notarization	\$8,200CAD plus applicable taxes	Submitted with completed country dossier.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
General Disbursements	\$400CAD	As above.	As above.
Total of Above 2 Items:	\$9,666.00CAD tax included	Due with completed dossier.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque.
Post Placement Administration	\$1,500CAD plus applicable taxes	Sent with referral acceptance.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
SWS Fee	\$22,300CAD	As above.	Payable to <i>The Children's Bridge In Trust</i> by certified cheque or money order.
Total of Above Items:	\$22,300.00CAD \$1,695.00CAD tax included	Due with referral acceptance.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque as indicated above.
Korean Family Court	TBD	TBD	TBD
Central Korean Auth.	TBD	TBD	TBD

FEE SCHEDULE SOUTH KOREA CONTINUED

(PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SCHEDULE DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL OF THE KOREA FEES OR 3RD PARTY FEES)

	Fee	Due Date	Payment Method
Annual Admin. Fee	\$1,400 plus applicable taxes	Invoiced annually once the adoption process exceeds one year from retainer date until completion of adoption process.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .

THAILAND

Adoption Program Manager: Darlene Catton, 905-836-6776, Email: darlene.catton@childrensbridge.com

General Information:

- Adoption is finalized in Thailand in conjunction with the Royal Thai Embassy in Ottawa.
- The Children's Bridge (Ontario families or provincial authority for other provinces) retains supervision of the child until the adoption is finalized.
- Both parents **must** travel to Ottawa or Toronto to complete the mandatory AdopTALK training.
- Both parents along with their child **must travel to the Royal Thai Embassy in Ottawa or Vancouver** to complete the process.
- We work with the Department of Children and Youth (DCY) and the Thai Red Cross Children's Home (TRCCH) - the Program Manager will determine the particular agency a file will be sent to based on the requirements of the agency, applicants qualifications and openings available.
- The Children's Bridge receives a quota each year from the DCY and TRCCH indicating the number of files that can be sent in a given year.
- Open to all provinces except Quebec.

Considerations:

- Trip is approximately 3 weeks in length.
- Three post placement reports due at 2, 4 and 6 months home must be completed with Adoption Practitioner.
- Children waiting for families due to socio-economic conditions and reside in orphanages.
- Both boys and girls are in need of families (mostly boys). Families may request gender but must be prepared for a longer wait for a girl.
- Older children and children with special medical needs are also waiting for families.
- Children will be approximately 14 months and up at proposal (average age is 22 months).

Requirements:

- Minimum age 25 years and up to a maximum age of 40.
- Couples over 40 but under 48 who are open to children over the age of 4 may be considered for this program.
- Families who have fertility issues should provide proof of same with a letter from their doctor.
- If adopting from the Thai Red Cross, can have no more than one child in the family already.
- No same sex or common law couples eligible.
- Single female only applicants can adopt special needs children.
- Must be married for a minimum of 2 years and have no more than 2 previous marriages (some exceptions).
- Families with 3 or more children in the home will **not** be considered for this program.
- Must have a minimum of high school education.
- Must be in excellent physical and emotional health – no exceptions.
- Must not be taking any prescribed medication for anxiety or depression.
- Must be 5 years cancer free.
- Cannot be notably overweight (no more than 30% of Body Mass Index (BMI)). Go to www.nhlbisupport.com/bmi to calculate your BMI.
- Sound financial position.
- One of a couple must be a Canadian citizen and have no criminal record.
- No morticians may apply.
- Open to residents of all provinces except Quebec.

Process:

- Families must first complete a *Consultation Appointment* (in-person or via telephone) with the Program Manager before beginning the process.
- Completion of home study and approval in province.
- File sent for notarization, authentication to Foreign Affairs and legalization at the Royal Thai Embassy.

- File then couriered to Thailand (Department of Children & Youth (DCY) or the Thai Red Cross Children's Home (TRCCH).
- Families receive their referral approximately 2 ½ years after their file is logged in at the DCY or TRCCH – this is an estimate only – proposals can come at any time and out of order and families must be prepared.
- Both parents must travel to Thailand to complete the adoption process (including an official interview).
- Stay in Thailand is approximately 3 weeks in duration.
- Three post placement reports must be completed and sent to Thailand.
- Once all post placement reports have been received, Thailand informs family that they can attend the Royal Thai Embassy in Ottawa or Vancouver to finalize the adoption (approximately 1 year after arrival home).

Timelines:

- Completion of home study (average time 3 – 6 months).
- Approval in province varies from 4 – 16 weeks.
- Wait for referral is approximately 2 ½ years.
- Travel to Thailand occurs approximately 10 weeks (DCY) or 6 months (TRCCH) after referral acceptance.

ESTIMATED ADOPTION COSTS - THAILAND

AGENCY FEES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)	CAD
1. Adoption Facilitation	\$10,000.00
2. Program Development Fee	500.00
3. Post Placement Administration (varies by province)	1,000.00
4. Annual Administrative Program Fee (for first year file is in process)*	250.00
5. AdopTALK (\$400/person)	800.00
6. Adoption & Parenting Resource Kit (reduced fee for those completing additional adoptions)	200.00
7. Applicable taxes on above	

**Once the adoption process exceeds one year from retainer date, the administration fee increases to \$1,400CAD plus tax annually until completion/finalization of the adoption process.

DISBURSEMENTS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Provincial Legal Notarization (plus applicable taxes) (varies by province)	\$ 200.00
Authentication of Documents	50.00
General Disbursements	550.00

THAILAND FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY)

In-country travel and misc. fees	\$4,000.00
Child's Embassy medical, photographs, registration, etc.	250.00

3RD PARTY FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY)

Coordinators Disbursements (plus applicable taxes)	\$2,000.00
In-country Fees	1,520.00
Translations/Affidavit (Birth Certificate, House Registration, Consents, etc.)	200.00
Adoption Practitioner/Social Worker – Home Study (fees fluctuate across Canada)	3,000.00
Adoption Practitioner Referral/Post Placement Reports (Ontario only - estimate)**	1,700.00
Ministry Mandated PRIDE Training (Ontario families only – approx. cost for 2 people)	1,500.00
Psychological Assessment (estimate)	800.00
Immigration Sponsorship	150.00
Police Clearances (Interpol, local)	150.00
Airfare return (Approx. cost for 2 adults and 1 child)	5,000.00
Royal Thai Embassy	120.00

**The Referral/Post Placement Reports fee (set by individual Adoption Practitioners and subject to change) is payable to The Children's Bridge In Trust at time of home study submission.

Please note: There may be other costs that will vary including the cost for both parents and their child to travel to the Royal Thai Embassy in Ottawa for a mandatory meeting to finalize the adoption. All fees are set and charged by third parties and must be paid at the current rate at the time they are due. There is a \$150.00 administrative fee payable to The Children's Bridge for any *additional* (not including adoptive parents and/or siblings) passengers travelling to Thailand. As there may be changes from when you initially received this cost information until you submit your fees, please **contact The Children's Bridge immediately prior to fee submission to verify all current costs.**

FEE SCHEDULE – THAILAND

To pay some fees securely, on-line with your VISA or MasterCard go to <http://www.childrensbridge.com/members/ecom>. Please note an additional credit card fee (Moneris) is charged back to families.

	Fee	Due Date	Payment Method
Non-refundable Retainer	\$2,000CAD plus applicable taxes	Submitted with signed Retainer.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Program Development Fee	\$500CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Adoption & Parenting Resource Kit	\$200CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
AdopTALK	\$800CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Admin. Fee	\$250CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Total of above items:	\$4,237.50CAD tax included	Due with signed Retainer.	Visa, MasterCard or cheque.
Referral/Post Placement	As indicated by A/P	At time of home study submission.	Cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Balance of Adoption Facilitation Fees and Notarization	\$8,200CAD plus applicable taxes	Sent with completed country dossier.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to " <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> ".
Disbursements and Authentication	\$600CAD	As above.	As above.
Coordinators Disbursements	\$2,000CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Embassy of Thailand	\$120.00CAD	As above.	Money order payable to " <i>Royal Thai Embassy, Ottawa</i> ".
Total of above items:	\$12,126.00CAD tax included and \$120CAD	Sent with completed dossier.	VISA, MasterCard, money order or cheque as indicated above.

FEE SCHEDULE – THAILAND CONTINUED

To pay some fees securely, on-line with your VISA or MasterCard go to <http://www.childrensbridge.com/members/ecom>. Please note an additional credit card fee (Moneris) is charged back to families.

	Fee	Due Date	Payment Method
Post Placement Administration	\$1,000CAD plus applicable taxes	Due with proposal acceptance.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to “ <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> ”.
In Country Fees	\$1,520CAD	As above.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to “ <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> ”.
Translations	\$200CAD	As above.	As above.
Total of above items:	\$2,850.00CAD tax included	Due upon receipt of Interim Trust Statement (received at time of proposal acceptance).	VISA, MasterCard or cheque as indicated above.
Annual Admin. Fee	\$1,400CAD plus applicable taxes	Invoiced annually once the adoption process exceeds one year from retainer date until completion of adoption process.	As above.

INDIA

Adoption Program Manager: Karyn Bakelaar, 613-226-2112, Ext. 2,
Email: Karyn.bakelaar@childrensbridge.com

General Information:

- Program opened in 2005.
- Open in to all provinces except Quebec.
- Open to singles and/or couples of Indian and non-Indian descent.

Considerations:

- Both parents are required to complete either one trip of 2-3 weeks or two trips if required for the court hearing (depending on the state that the child is residing in).
- Children in need of families due to poverty and single parenthood.
- Majority of the children reside in orphanages with voluntary and professional staff.
- Both boys and girls are waiting for families
- Children range in age from 18 months (and up) at time of referral.
- Older children and those with special needs are also waiting for families.
- Sibling groups are available for adoption and applicants must be open to children up to age 8 (minimum).
- Family cannot specify gender unless in exceptional circumstances. Please consult with Program Manager.
- Children with special needs are also waiting for families.
- Brief child study and medical are provided.

Requirements:

- Single men or women are eligible to adopt.
- A single female is able to adopt a child of any gender and a single male is able to adopt a male child.
- The age of prospective adoptive parents on the date of registration shall be counted for deciding the eligibility of prospective adoptive parents to apply for children of different age groups as follows:

Age of the child	Maximum composite age of prospective adoptive parents	Maximum age of single prospective adoptive parent
Up to 4 years	90 years	45 years
Above 4 years and up to 8 years	100 years	50 years
Above 8 years and up to 18 years	110 years	55 years;

- The minimum age difference between the child and either of the prospective adoptive parents should not be less than twenty five years.
- Married couples must have a minimum two years stable marital relationship (no common-law).
- Families must maintain an adequate financial portfolio to provide a good upbringing for the child.
- Applicants should be physically, mentally and emotionally stable; financially capable; motivated to adopt a child; and should not have any life threatening medical condition.
- Both applicants must be free from criminal record.
- Couples with more than three (3) children in the home already are only eligible to adopt a child with special needs.

Process:

- All prospective adoptive families must first complete a *Consultation Appointment* (in-person or via telephone) with the India Program Manager before undertaking an adoption from India.
- Completion of a home study and approval in province.
- File notarized by The Children's Bridge and family is then registered on-line with the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA).
- Child's referral comes to the licensee and then to the family.

- Court hearings usually take place 6 to 9 months after the applicants accept the referral.
- Both parents are required to travel to India before or after the court hearing, depending on the court request.
- Adoption is finalized in India under the JJ Act 2000 and the adoptive parents are appointed as legal parents of the child.
- Post placement reports are required for 2 years after the adoption is complete (at 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 24 months) with Adoption Practitioner.

Timelines:

- Home study completion varies (average time 3 – 6 months).
- Approval in province takes between 4 and 16 weeks.
- Timelines for in-country process are inconsistent.
- Most families will be matched within 2 years after file is sent to India (varies based on the age and medical conditions that a family are open to).
- Family travels to India approximately 2 – 4 months after the final court hearing.
- Stay in India is approximately 2 weeks. Varies dependent on the region in India that the child is from.

The above timelines are an estimate only and many factors will impact this timeline. Every family's timeline will be unique.

ESTIMATED ADOPTION COSTS - INDIA

AGENCY FEES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)	USD	CAD
1. Adoption Facilitation		\$10,000.00
2. Program Development Fee		500.00
3. Post Placement Administration		2,000.00
4. Annual Administrative Program Fee (for first year file is in process)*		250.00
5. AdopTALK (\$400/person)		800.00
6. Adoption & Parenting Resource Kit (reduced fee for those completing additional adoptions)		200.00
7. Applicable taxes on above		

**Once the adoption process exceeds one year from retainer date, the administration fee increases to \$1,400CAD plus tax annually until completion/finalization of the adoption process.

DISBURSEMENTS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Provincial Legal Notarization (plus applicable taxes)	200.00
General Disbursements	670.00

INDIA FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY - USD)

Coordinators Disbursements	\$2,000.00
In-country adoption fees	5,025.00
In-country travel and accommodation	1,600.00

For conversion to Canadian dollars go to www.xe.com/ucc/convert.cgi

3RD PARTY FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY)

Adoption Practitioner/Social Worker – Home Study (fees fluctuate across Canada)	\$3,000.00
Adoption Practitioner Referral/Post Placement Reports (Ontario only – estimate)*	1,700.00
Ministry Mandated PRIDE Training (Ontario families only – approx. cost for 2 people)	1,500.00
Immigration Sponsorship	150.00
Police Clearances (Interpol, local)	150.00
Travel Visas (for 2 adults)	200.00
Airfare return (Approx. cost based on 2 adults and 1 child)	4,000.00

*The Referral/Post Placement Reports fee (set by individual Adoption Practitioners and subject to change) is payable to The Children's Bridge In Trust at time of dossier submission.

Please note: There may be other costs that will vary. All fees are set and charged by third parties and must be paid at the current rate at the time they are due. There is a \$150.00 administrative fee payable to The Children's Bridge for any *additional* (not including adoptive parents and/or siblings) passengers travelling to India. As there may be changes from when you initially received this cost information until you submit your fees, please **contact The Children's Bridge immediately prior to fee submission to verify all current costs.**

FEE SCHEDULE – INDIA

To pay some fees securely, on-line with your VISA or MasterCard go to <http://www.childrensbridge.com/members/ecom>. Please note that an additional credit card fee (Moneris) is charged back to families.

	Fee	Due Date	Payment Method
Non-refundable Retainer	\$2,000 plus applicable taxes	Submitted with signed Retainer.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Program Development Fee	\$500CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Adoption & Parenting Resource Kit	\$200CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
AdopTALK	\$800CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Admin. Fee	\$250CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Total of Above Items:	\$4,237.50CAD tax included	Due with signed Retainer.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque.
Referral/Post Placement	As indicated by A/P	At time of home study submission.	Cheque payable to " <i>The Children's Bridge In Trust</i> ".
Balance of Adoption Facilitation Fees and Notarization	\$8,200CAD plus applicable taxes	Sent with completed country dossier.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge In Trust</i> .
Disbursements	\$670CAD	As above.	As above.
Total of Above Items:	\$9,936.00CAD tax included	Sent with completed dossier.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque.
Coordinators Disbursements	\$2,000USD	As above.	Certified cheque in USD payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
In-country adoption fees	\$5,025USD	As above.	As above.
Total of Above Items:	\$7,025.00USD	Sent with completed dossier.	USD certified cheque.

FEE SCHEDULE – INDIA CONTINUED

To pay some fees securely, on-line with your VISA or MasterCard go to <http://www.childrensbridge.com/members/ecommm>. Please note that an additional credit card fee (Moneris) is charged back to families.

	Fee	Due Date	Payment Method
Post Placement Administration	\$2,000CAD plus applicable taxes	Submitted with accepted child proposal.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge In Trust</i> .
Annual Admin. Fee	\$1,400CAD plus applicable taxes	Invoiced annually once the adoption process exceeds one year from retainer date until completion of adoption process.	As above.

CHINA WAITING CHILDREN PROGRAM

Executive Director/Program Manager: Cathy Murphy, 613-226-2112, Ext. 6,
Email: cathy.murphy@childrensbridge.com

Considerations:

- The China Centre for Children's Welfare and Adoption (CCCWA) offer two streams in their Waiting Children program:
 - Waiting Children Program (boys over 7 years of age with minor correctable medical conditions – more boys than girls are waiting for families - open to married couples and single female applicants who meet the CCCWA requirements)
 - Special Focus Program (older children with higher non-correctable medical conditions and cognitive delays - open to couples and single females)
- This is an older child adoption program. Children are over 7 years of age and have special medical needs. The majority of older children are boys between 10 and 14 years of age.
- Families also qualify for this program if they are adopting a healthy child between 12 – 16 years of age.
- Limited familial medical history is available; however, a detailed medical is included with each referral.
- A generic medical report is completed by our volunteer consulting physician Dr. Margaret Lawson and the team at CHEO (Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario). The Children's Bridge advises every family to consult with an International Adoption Clinic for a pre-adoption screening of the child's referral information.
- A limited history since coming to the orphanage is provided.
- Adoption finalized in China.
- Your file will be expedited in the Waiting Children Program.
- Your child will arrive home approximately 6 months after you receive your child's referral.
- Both boys and girls are waiting for families in this program but here are more boys than girls. You must be open to either gender in this program.

Requirements:

- Applicants must be a minimum of 30 years of age.
- When a married couple adopts together and the age of the younger party is older than 50, the age difference between the younger party and the adoptee should be no more than 50 years.
- The age difference between a single adoptive mother and the adoptee should be no more than 45 years. If a single female applicant is adopting, the number of children under 18 years of age in the family should be less than three and the youngest child should have reached 6 years of age.
- Must be married (no common law or same sex couples).
- Couples must be married for 2 years and have no more than 2 previous marriages. If previously married, current marriage must be minimum 5 years in length.
- You must be free from criminal record and in good physical and emotional health.
- Applicants must be free from the following conditions: HIV positive, cancer, intellectual disability, dysfunction of limbs or trunk caused by impairment, incomplete limbs, paralysis, deformation or severe facial deformation, malignant tumors, infectious disease, blindness, deafness (unless adopting a child with identical condition), physical disability, lupus, epilepsy, schizophrenia, 10 years post surgery of organ transplantation, 10 years free of drinking if history of alcohol abuse, diseases that require long-term treatments (lupus, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, etc.) – if one party is completely healthy and the other is under good control/treatment, they may be exempt from this limitation, if mental health issues in a couple, if ONE of the couple has minor symptoms and these are under control by small doses of medication, they could be exempt.
- No history of taking drugs including: opium, morphine, marijuana, cocaine, heroin, smokable methamphetamine, etc.
- The CCCWA requires a letter from a registered psychologist or psychiatrist if the applicant has dealt with issues of incidental depression and/or is taking medication.

- Cannot be noticeably overweight (Body Mass Index (BMI) cannot exceed 40. Go to www.nhlbisupport.com/bmi to calculate your BMI.).
- Both applicants must have a high school education (or equivalent vocational education) or higher.
- The family's **net worth** cannot be lower than \$80,000USD, \$100,000USD for singles (for conversion to CAD go to www.xe.com/ucc/convert.cgi)
- At least one of a couple MUST be a Canadian citizen.
- Adoptive families must complete pre-adoption training.
- The family must live in a large urban centre with access to appropriate resources to meet each child's individual needs. Each family must complete a screening process with The Children's Bridge prior to proceeding.

Process:

- Screening process completed by The Children's Bridge.
- Completion of a home study and approval in province including completion of a child profile detailing the type of special medical needs your family can support.
- Waiting Children Program children's files are posted to The China Centre for Children's Welfare and Adoption (CCCWA) on-line system each month. The Children's Bridge continues to receive "individual agency" children's files and have access to "multiple" listing of children's files.
- Once approved by the CCCWA, your adoption dossier is expedited in China.
- Six-month supervision is required by the Adoption Practitioner.
- CCCWA requires completion of post placement reports at 6 and 12 months home as well as at the 2, 3, 4 and 5 year mark. The 6 month and 1 and 2 year reports must be written by the Adoption Practitioner. The 3, 4 and 5 year reports can be completed by the adoptive family. All reports must be submitted to the CCCWA through the licensed adoption agency.

CHINA WC PROGRAM continued

Timelines:

- Family pay membership and callback list fee and is placed on callback list before entering the “active” Waiting Children program.
- Family completes screening process with The Children's Bridge (approximately 2 weeks)
- Family then begins the home study process which varies but average is 3 – 6 months to complete. Family must also complete PRIDE training.
- Family submits their home study (Ontario) and dossier to The Children's Bridge.
- The provincial ministries take anywhere from 4 to 16 weeks to give approval for the Waiting Children Program.
- Once the file has been logged in at the CCCWA, a child proposal can be presented to the family.
- If a multiple listing child’s file, the family will have 72 hours to accept or decline the proposal. If accepted, the family will meet with their Adoption Practitioner who will recommend the match to the provincial ministry. If the file is an “individual” file, the family will have up to 1 weeks to complete this process.
- Once the CCCWA accepts the match, they will issue the relevant documentation (Letter Seeking Confirmation from Adopter) for signature within 3 – 4 months.
- Families will travel approximately 8 - 10 weeks after sending the Letter Seeking Confirmation from Adopter to the CCAA.
- During these 8 – 10 weeks, the “Notice of Traveling to China for Adoption” will be sent to the agency/province from the CCCWA.
- The adoption journey will last approximately 2 weeks.
- The entire process takes approximately 1 – 2 years to complete (once in the active program)
- Timelines do fluctuate. These are estimates only.

ESTIMATED ADOPTION COSTS – CHINA

WAITING CHILDREN PROGRAM

AGENCY FEES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)	RMB	USD	CAD
1. Adoption Facilitation			\$9,500.00
2. Program Development Fee			500.00
3. Annual Administrative Program Fee (for first year file is in process)*			250.00
4. AdopTALK (\$400/person)			800.00
5. Adoption & Parenting Resource Kit (reduced fee for those completing additional adoptions)			200.00
6. Applicable taxes on above			

**Once the adoption process exceeds one year from retainer date, the administration fee increases to \$1,400CAD plus tax annually until completion/finalization of the adoption process.

DISBURSEMENTS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Provincial Legal Notarization (plus applicable taxes)	200.00
Travel Visas (\$110/person travelling)	220.00
Authentication of Documents (\$1,500 for families in the GTA and provinces other than Ontario)	1,200.00
General Disbursements	665.00

Please note: In order to maintain a position on our callback list you must have an active Children's Bridge membership. In addition, an annual fee of \$100 will be applied.

CHINA FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY)

Orphanage Donation (payable in RMB)	35,000	
CCCWA Adoption Service Fee		1,100.00
Adoption Fees in Province		1,000.00
Adoption Travel Service in China		6,000.00
Baby's Medical (for immigration purposes)		120.00

3RD PARTY FEES (ESTIMATES ONLY)

Translation Admin. (dossier, referral, post placement reports, CB processing)	\$2,200.00
Medical Fees & Testing (e.g. MRI, if required)	500.00
International Adoption Clinic Pre-adoption Screening	500.00
Coordinators Disbursements (plus applicable taxes)	\$2,000.00
Adoption Practitioner/Social Worker – Home Study (fees fluctuate across Canada)	3,000.00
Adoption Practitioner Referral/Post Placement Reports (Ontario only –estimate)*	2,000.00
Ministry Mandated PRIDE Training (Ontario families only – approx. cost for 2 people)	1,500.00
Immigration Sponsorship	150.00
Police Clearances for 2 (Interpol, local)	150.00
Airfare return (Approx. cost for 2 adults and 1 child)	4,000.00

*The Referral/Post Placement Reports fee (set by individual Adoption Practitioners and subject to change) is payable to The Children's Bridge In Trust at time of referral acceptance. The Adoption Practitioner must complete the first 3 post placement reports.

For conversion to Canadian dollars go to www.xe.com/ucc/convert.cgi

Please note: There may be other costs that will vary. All fees are set and charged by third parties and must be paid at the current rate at the time they are due. There is a \$150.00 administrative fee payable to The Children's Bridge for any *additional* (not including adoptive parents and/or siblings) passengers travelling to China. Families travelling to Guangdong province will stay up to 17 days therefore some costs will be higher. Travel costs in province and Beijing could also be higher in the WC Program. As there may be changes to these costs from when you initially received this Estimated Adoption Costs sheet until you submit your fees, **please contact The Children's Bridge immediately prior to fee submission to verify current costs.**

FEE SCHEDULE CHINA – WAITING CHILDREN PROGRAM

(PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SCHEDULE DOES NOT INCLUDE CHINA FEES OR ALL OF THE 3RD PARTY FEES)

To pay some fees securely, on-line with your VISA or MasterCard go to:

<http://www.childrensbridge.com/members/ecommerce>. Please note that an additional credit card fee (Moneris) is charged back to families.

	Fee	Due Date	Payment Method
Non-refundable Retainer	\$2,000CAD plus applicable taxes	Submitted with signed Retainer.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Program Development Fee	\$500CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Adoption & Parenting Resource Kit	\$200CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
AdopTALK	\$800CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Admin. Fee	\$250CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	As above.
Total of Above Items:	\$4,237.50CAD tax included	Due with signed Retainer	VISA, MasterCard or cheque.
Referral/Post Placement	As indicated by A/P	At time of home study submission.	Cheque payable to " <i>The Children's Bridge In Trust</i> ".
Balance of Adoption Facilitation Fees & Notarization	\$7,700CAD plus applicable taxes	Submitted with completed country dossier.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .
Visas, Authentication and Disbursements	\$2,085CAD	As above.	As above.
Coordinators Disbursements	\$2,000CAD plus applicable taxes	As above.	Cheque payable to " <i>The Children's Bridge In Trust</i> ".
Total of Above Items:	\$13,046.00CAD tax included	Sent with completed dossier.	Payable as outlined above.
Translation Administration	\$2,200USD	As above.	US dollar draft payable to <i>The Children's Bridge In Trust</i> .
CCCWA Adoption Service Fee	\$1,100USD	As above.	As above.
Total of Above Items:	\$3,300.00USD	Sent with completed dossier.	US dollar draft.
Medical Testing (if required)	\$500USD	On acceptance of child proposal.	As above.

FEE SCHEDULE CHINA – WAITING CHILDREN PROGRAM - CONTINUED

(PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SCHEDULE DOES NOT INCLUDE CHINA FEES OR ALL OF THE 3RD PARTY FEES)

<p>To pay some fees securely, on-line with your VISA or MasterCard go to: http://www.childrensbridge.com/members/ecommerce. Please note that an additional credit card fee (Moneris) is charged back to families.</p>			
	Fee	Due Date	Payment Method
Annual Admin. Fee	\$1,400CAD plus applicable taxes	Invoiced annually once the adoption process exceeds one year from retainer date until completion of adoption process.	VISA, MasterCard or cheque payable to <i>The Children's Bridge in Trust</i> .

COUNTRIES AT A GLANCE

FACTS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING YOUR ADOPTION PROGRAM

	Florida (ASC)	Florida (ACF)	Zambia	South Korea
Age of Child	10 – 14 days at time of placement	10 – 14 days at time of placement	9 months + at placement	18 – 24 months at placement
Gender	Male and Female	Male and Female	Male and Female	Mostly male (cannot specify gender)
Time to Referral (approx.)	9 – 18 months	6 – 18 months	6 – 12 months	3 - 10 months from time file is received in Korea.
Health Info Received with Referral	Comprehensive (child and familial)	Comprehensive (child and familial)	Comprehensive including test results.	Comprehensive
Familial History	Birth family history will be provided.	Birth family history will be provided.	Social, familial or other history, if known.	Some birth & familial history included in referral package
Marital Status	Married couples only.	Open	Married minimum 1 year. Single women accepted.	No singles – married min. 3 years.
Trip	1 trip of 7 – 14 days	1 trip of 7 – 14 days	One trip lasting estimated 5 – 9 months.	Two trips
*Estimated Cost	\$22,550CAD PLUS \$53,500USD +	\$22,550CAD PLUS \$43,000USD +	\$34,000CAD PLUS \$26,500USD	\$53,000 - \$55,000CAD

***Please note:** Estimated costs may not include some flights, meals, incidentals, etc. Please confirm all costs with Program Manager prior to submission of fees.

COUNTRIES AT A GLANCE

FACTS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING YOUR ADOPTION PROGRAM

	Thailand	India	China - WCP
Age of Child	14 months and up at placement	18 months & up	7 years and older at referral
Gender	Both boys and girls	Both boys and girls but mostly girls	Male and Female (mostly older boys with special needs)
Time to Referral (approx.)	2 1/2 years	Inconsistent (within 2 years)	1 – 2 years (from when your dossier is logged in at the CCCWA)
Health Info Received with Referral	Limited medical	Limited	Detailed medical
Familial History	Some history may be included	Some history may be provided	None
Marital Status	Married min. 2 years. Singles can adopt special needs.	Single men and women and married couples (2 years).	Married min. 2 years. Also open to single females.
Trip	1 trip, approx. 3 weeks.	1 trip, 2 – 3 weeks	13 – 17 days
Estimated Cost	\$35,000 - \$37,000CAD	\$38,000 - \$40,000CAD	\$47,000 - \$49,000CAD

***Please note:** Estimated costs may not include some flights, meals, incidentals, etc. Please confirm all costs with Program Manager prior to submission of fees.

REGIONAL COORDINATORS

E-MAIL/TELEPHONE LIST

Pre and Post Adoption Services Contacts:

Ottawa

Cathy Murphy, (613) 226-2112 ext. 6, cathy.murphy@childrensbridge.com
 Karyn Bakelaar, (613) 226-2112, ext. 2, Karyn.bakelaar@childrensbridge.com

GTA

Darlene Catton, (905) 836-6776, darlene.catton@childrensbridge.com

Alberta	Annelies & Herman Barkema, (403) 441-5320, anneliesengel@shaw.ca (Calgary)
New Brunswick	Susanne McFadzen, (506) 457-1866, smcfadzen@rogers.com (Fredericton)
Newfoundland	Krista Ricketts, (709) 754-4275, kristaricketts@hotmail.com
Ontario	
Ottawa	Andy Thompson, (613) 979-2607, andy.thompson@gmail.com Tammy Buxton, (613) 590-7300, tammylbuxton@rogers.com Pamela Tompkins, (613) 843-1015, pamelatompkins@bell.ca
Toronto	Michelle Patience, (416) 755-2036, michelle.patience@sympatico.ca Jan Gravelle, (905) 235-7314, jan.gravelle@rogers.com Tracey Hedges, hedges6805@rogers.com Nadia Naqvi, nadiasemail@gmail.com (South Korea)
PEI	Susan Judson & Paul Gallant, (902) 569-3062, susan.judson@pei.sympatico.ca

NEXT STEPS

*Become a Member

If you would like to receive more information about The Children's Bridge and the programs we offer and set up a consultation call, you can subscribe as a member for \$50.00/year or \$130 for 3 years (you'll find a Membership Form at the back of this package). Upon receipt of this membership fee, the completed Membership Form and the Consent to Exchange document, you will:

- receive a detailed adoption package
- be placed on The Children's Bridge Newsletter distribution list.
- gain access to The Children's Bridge members section of the website. As well as many other items on this site, you'll find referral timelines, newsletter archives and post adoption community resources.
- gain access to the Families-in-Waiting (general) chat line (instructions on how to register for this chat line can be found on the website).
- now set up a consultation call with a Program Manager.

On the Membership Form you will notice a section in which you can select a country of interest. By indicating your preferred country, we will send you a detailed adoption package that includes all of the documentation required to complete an adoption from that country. If you are unsure as to which country to choose, please check off the appropriate box and one of the office staff will contact you with more details and information to help you make your decision.

Please note that becoming a member does NOT commit a family to completing an adoption but simply provides you with further information.

*Contact Program Manager

Prior to proceeding with your home study, we suggest you contact the Program Manager of the program you are interested in for further direction. Many programs have callback lists (you must have a current membership and pay an annual fee of \$100 to maintain a spot on each callback list) and if you choose to register for one, you may not need to begin the home study process right away. The Program Manager will advise the most efficient route to take.

*Begin Your Home Study & PRIDE Training (if applicable)

The first step with any adoption is to begin the home study process. A link to a complete list of approved Adoption Practitioners can be found on our website as well as documents designed to assist you with this process (under "Pre Adoption Documents"). Now is the time to enquire about PRIDE Training dates.

*Research

It is very important that you research possible health (physical AND emotional) conditions of adopted children, specifically from the country you are interested in. In the Member's section of our website you'll find an entire section devoted to health issues.

*Contact your Regional Coordinator

To find out what events and activities are happening in your region, contact your Regional Coordinator (a complete list can be found on the preceding page). Our Regional Coordinators are also available to answer any questions you have, address your concerns or simply lend an ear.

*Retain the Services of an Agency

Prior to the completion of your home study you will need to retain the services of a licensed adoption agency. This process requires filling out the Retainer Agreement (included in the detailed adoption package) and sending it to The Children's Bridge along with the retainer fee. Once a client has retained our services, they will then gain access to the general Children's Bridge chat line, receive a monthly update from our Executive Director and Program Managers and receive the comprehensive Adoption and Parenting Resource Kit.



MEMBERSHIP FORM

221-1400 Clyde Avenue
 Ottawa ♦ Ontario ♦ K2G 3J2
 Tel: (613) 226-2112
 Fax: (613) 226-8843
 Email: info@childrensbridge.com
 www.childrensbridge.com

To ensure that The Children's Bridge provides you with optimal service and information, please complete this membership form in its entirety. Once you have completed this form, return it with your cheque, cash payment, or VISA information to The Children's Bridge office at the address above. If you are missing some information (i.e. Adoption Practitioner), you can still submit this form to become a member and forward us missing information when available.

Please be advised that any and all information provided in this application shall be for the exclusive and confidential use of The Children's Bridge. No information provided herein shall be released, transmitted or transferred in any way to any third party without the member's express written consent.

Please select one of the following for **each** option:

The Children's Bridge may may not share my **personal** information with The Children's Bridge Foundation.
 The Children's Bridge may may not share my **contact** information with The Children's Bridge Foundation.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

MEMBER INFORMATION:

Marital Status: Married How long? _____
 Single

	APPLICANT 1 INFORMATION	APPLICANT 2 INFORMATION
First Name:		
Last Name:		
Date of Birth:		
Address: (Courier address if P.O. Box)		
Phone # (Home):		
Phone # (Business):		
Cell Phone #:		
Email Address:		

Adoption Practitioner: (include address, phone # and e-mail address)	
----------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

YOUR CHILDREN:

Details (Please include all children in your family.):

First Name	Last Name	Date of Birth

STATUS

Please select one of the following options:

- Membership for services only or renewing member.
- Do not require a detailed country information package or phone call at this time.
- Have not yet chosen our country; please contact us to discuss options.
- Have chosen country and require a detailed package for (select **one** only):
 - Florida, U.S.A.
 - HIV
 - Zambia
 - South Korea
 - India
 - Thailand
 - Thailand Waiting Children
 - China Waiting Children

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Subscription: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year membership @ \$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 year membership @ \$130.00
Payment Method: <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Cheque	<input type="checkbox"/> VISA #: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard #: _____
	Name on Card: _____
	Expiry Date: _____
	Signature: _____



CONSENT TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION

This shall be our full and irrevocable direction and authority to The Children's Bridge and such agents, regulatory departments, government agencies and other such persons or organizations as may be necessary to exchange and/or acquire such personal information relating to us,

Applicant 1 (print name)

Applicant 2 Signature (print name)

for the purposes of processing the adoption of a child from:

The recipient of this direction is hereby authorized and directed to provide such information about us as requested by The Children's Bridge.

Dated at _____, this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Applicant 1 Signature

Applicant 2 Signature