



Overview of Adoption Process

Contracting Process:

1. Complete Application
2. Complete Contract Meeting
3. Reviewed agency policy materials
4. Contract Service fee paid

Homestudy Process:

1. Completed DOJ Fingerprints ASAP
2. Return INS Packet to Adoption Horizons ASAP
3. Do Personal Statement – "Section A" to begin homestudy
4. Attend 2 While-U-Wait/Post-Placement meetings (held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month)
5. Attend 5 Adoption Education Classes
6. Start keeping record of expenses for court finalization
7. Submit all required documents
8. Complete all homestudy sessions with your social worker

Search/Referral Process:

1. Homestudy forwarded to child placing agencies
2. Create a "face sheet" for CA Waiting Children Program
3. Pay search fee
4. Begin the waiting phase of the adoption process
5. Continue to attend the While-U-Wait/Post Placement Meetings (as desired)
6. Review possible referrals
7. Accept referral
8. Send child's documents to INS
9. Travel to meet child (California Waiting Children)
10. Preparation for foreign travel
11. Review travel materials
12. Sign Placement Agreement
13. Sign Child Assessment
14. Pay final fee

Placement Process:

1. Receive child
2. Have first "Medical Form" completed by physician
3. Complete 15-day visit with your social worker
4. Attend 6 Post Placement Meetings (Required)
5. Submit 6 written Post Placement reports (Required)
6. File Adoption (Petition) Request
7. Work with your social worker on adjustment issues
8. Get a social security card for child

Pre-Finalization Process:

1. Copy of child's documents to Adoption Horizons
2. Copy of child's Alien Registration Card to Adoption Horizons
3. The final court adoption forms to Adoption Horizons
4. Review our "Agency Report" to the court for corrections
5. Return Agency Report corrections to finalization worker
6. Complete final visit with the social worker

Finalization Process:

1. Appear in court for finalization after you receive a letter from Adoption Horizons asking you to schedule an appointment
2. Request a copy of the "Order of Adoption"
3. Copy of the "Order of Adoption" to Adoption Horizons
4. Receive a letter from Adoption Horizons that your case is closed
5. You are eligible to re-apply for adoption
6. You are invited to become a board member