



Vietnam

Program requirements are subject to change without prior notice

GENERAL INFORMATION

Who can adopt?

- The adoptive parent(s) must be 20 years older than the child.
- A couple must be married, with or without children.
- Single parents are accepted.
- Same sex couples are not accepted.

Type of children generally proposed

- Boys and girls 6 months to 4 years.
- Adoption of older children possible (5 years and older).
- Special needs children only (from minor correctable to more severe health status.)

Cost of an adoption

- The total cost of an adoption for a couple is approximately \$43,000 CAD and approximately \$40,000 CAD for a single.
- These fees include expenses incurred in Ontario and in Vietnam, the opening of the file, registration fees, medical fees, salaries and overhead in Canada and in Vietnam, accompaniment fees, and delegation costs for Vietnamese authorities to come to Canada.
- Expenses related to the homestudy, travel, accommodation and immigration are also included in this amount, but are paid directly to the service provider and not to TDHO.

DOSSIER REQUIREMENTS

- Originals (2) Application for Adoption (Vietnamese form) and 4 photos (each).
- Copy of Marriage Certificate, if applicable (official copy from the Registrar of Civil Status).
- Photocopy of passport of each adoptive applicant (husband and wife on same page).
- Original of homestudy and original of Letter of Approval.
- Original of medical certificate of each adoptive parent on form provided by TDHO (must be less than 6 months old at the time of the presentation of the dossier in Vietnam).
- Original of letter of employment for each adoptive applicant or financial statement. The form is provided by TDHO.
- Original of police certificate.

Documents are valid for 1 year, except for the homestudy and Ministry Approval which are valid for 2 years.

We will notarize these documents and then have them legalized at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Ottawa. We then send the documents to the Vietnamese official translation office in Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City.

CHILD PROPOSAL

TDHO initially proposes a child verbally to the adoptive applicants with all known information about the child. This process initiates opening the child dossier.

According to the new law of Vietnam, the dossier completion for the official child proposal may take up to 9 months from the moment the Department of Adoption receives the dossiers of an adoptive applicant for a specific child. This process may be prolonged if additional investigation into the child's situation is required. Once the child dossier is completed, the adoptive applicants will receive official proposal documentation. At that time, the adoptive applicants will discuss the proposal with their adoption practitioner and will set a date to meet if they want to proceed. Adoptive applicants will have 30 days to accept or reject the proposal of the child.

An official acceptance or refusal letter is signed by the adoptive applicants and the approved adoption practitioner, and is forwarded to the Ontario Ministry in order to receive approval for the match. After receiving Ministry approval, this document will be sent to Vietnam.

ADOPTION PROCESS

- Once the Department of Adoption (DA) has received the approval documents, they will transfer the dossier to the Department of Justice (DOJ) in order to schedule the Giving and Receiving Ceremony date which is the official adoption date.
- THDO will inform the adoptive applicants of the date of the Giving and Receiving Ceremony at the DOJ to the parents.
- The adoptive applicants will then have 30 days to make arrangements to travel to Vietnam.
- Once the formal adoption process has occurred, the DA will issue the Certificate of Conformity as required by the Hague Convention.
- Before the departure for Vietnam, TDHO will communicate with the adoptive applicants to provide them with details regarding the above procedures, and to arrange hotel and airline reservations.
- TDHO staff in Vietnam will accompany and assist adoptive applicants throughout their stay in Vietnam.
- Travel documents for the child are obtained by our Vietnam representative then sent to the Canadian Embassy in Singapore in order to finalize immigration or citizenship procedures. Once the Canadian visa or passport is obtained, parents return to Canada with their child.

POST-ADOPTION REPORTING

- Follow-up reports must be submitted by the parents twice each year for 3 years. We will send you a template for completing these reports and a reminder for when and where these are due.
- The child has permanent resident status when s/he enters Canada if the immigration process is used. The adoptive parents may apply for Canadian citizenship for their child after 12 months following their arrival in Canada.
- Alternatively, TDHO recommend the Citizenship and Immigration Canada route which is much quicker to process while in Vietnam. In this case, the child will be a Canadian citizen when entering Canada. A Vietnamese and Canadian passport will be issued when the child is in Vietnam.