



Journeys of the Heart China Special Needs Program

Journeys of the Heart is fortunate to be one of the few adoption agencies accredited by the China Center of Adoption Affairs to place special need children. Due to our excellent relationship with CCAA, we have been able to place special need children since 1998.

This program is a very good choice for families who are open to a diversity of special needs, which range from minor medical issues, like cleft lip and palate, club foot, hemangiomas, Hepatitis B, etc. to moderate and severe medical problems like missing limbs, cerebral palsy, spina bifida, mental retardation, Down syndrome, etc.

The age of the children is between 1 year old to 13 years old, and the ratio boys to girls is approximately 3:1.

We are expecting the adoption to be finalized in approximately 1 year from the beginning of the process if family wishes to adopt a boy and approximately 1 ½ years for a family who wishes to adopt a girl.

According to CCAA regulations, a family can be matched with a child only if the "dossier" is registered with their office. There is an exception from this rule-the match can be made if the child was on the special need list for more than one month. The dossier must be sent to CCAA within 3 months from the match in order to keep the referral.

We will expertly guide you through the entire process and help you complete the dossier as fast as possible. Once the dossier (which is relatively easy to compile) is finalized, we will send it to China to be translated and be registered with China Center of Adoption Affairs; this process will take up to 3 weeks. CCAA will send us the registration number and the date of the registration.

After this, the referral can be made immediately if a child who matches the family's preferences is already listed. CCAA updates the special need list once a month, and families should expect a waiting time of 0-6 months to be matched, the longest waiting time being for young girls (1-2 years old) with minor special needs (cleft lip/palate, club foot, minor congenital heart diseases, etc)

After the match is made, expect up to 3-4 months for CCAA to send the documents that seek approval for this match (Letter of Seeking Confirmation From Adopter), and approximately 2 months until the trip to China.

New referrals become available each month and it is from the new referral list that Journeys' staff are able to locate children with the minor special needs.

The children with more severe special needs are listed on our site under the password. If you would like to read about the children with severe special needs contact Gabriel at Gabriel@journeysoftheheart.net for the password or call Journeys' home office (503) 681-3075 for more information.

SCHEDULE OF FEES JOURNEYS OF THE HEART CHINA PROGRAM

Families outside of Oregon, Washington and Illinois

EXPENSE ITEM	AMOUNT	TO BE PAID
Application fee	\$300	With application or submit online
Educational DVD's and materials-must be completed before home study is approved by JOH	\$150 per person	With contract
FBI fingerprint processing	Varies per card to law enforcement authorities and FBI	ASAP - prior to home study interviews
Home study	Varies by home study agency	To home study agency
Home study review	\$300	With contract
2 Post placement reports (3 rd Post placement will be needed if the child is 18 months or older at referral)	Varies by home study agency	To home study agency
Home Study updates-when required	Varies by home study agency	To home study agency
First half of China program fee	\$3,000	With contract
US CIS I-800A and fingerprinting	\$670 plus \$80/per adult - send money order or bank check to US Department of Homeland Security	After Journeys of the Heart approves home study
Dossier state certification and consulate authentication	\$350-\$900 Varies by state (paid directly to state and Chinese consulate)	When documents are submitted
Second half of China program fee	\$3,000	Before dossier is sent to China
Registration and translation of dossier in China	\$1,100	Before dossier is sent to China
Refundable Citizenship Fee (refunded when proof of citizenship is sent to JOH)	\$500	At time of referral
Post placement report deposit-to be refunded when all reports are completed as required	\$250 per report	At time of referral
Child's immigrant visa & courier fee	\$515	At time of referral

EXPENSE ITEM	AMOUNT	TO BE PAID
China Visa Fee	\$130 per person, plus handling fee - paid to China Consulate	Approximately 2 months before traveling to China
International air fare & 3 nights at hotel in Guangzhou	Average \$2,000 - \$3,000 per adult	Just prior to traveling to China
In-country guide, hotels, transportation and sight seeing	Average \$1,500 to \$2,500 per adult	Just prior to traveling to China
Orphanage contribution	Approx. \$5,200*	During adoption trip
Local civil affairs, notary and passport fees	Average \$850 - \$1,000	During adoption trip
Meals, Airport taxes, tips, child's Visa medical exam & miscellaneous	Average \$250 - \$500	During adoption trip
Child's re-adoption in your state (strongly recommended)	\$1,000 + Varies by state and attorney	After returning home

*At current exchange rate, RMB 35,000 is approx. \$5,200

All fees are subject to change. Sibling groups require extra fees. Shaded areas describe services and fees provided by non-Journeys of the Heart agencies or individuals. These items are subject to change without notice.