

Nightlight[®] Christian Adoptions
International Adoption Program Description
TAIWAN



GENERAL INFORMATION

If you are considering adopting from Taiwan please read the following information as required by the Hague Convention on International Adoptions.

Information on international adoptions from Taiwan can be found at:

- <http://adoption.state.gov/country/taiwan.html>: Information on international adoptions from Taiwan on the U.S. Department of State web site
- <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/35855.htm>: Information on the country of Taiwan on the U.S. Department of State web site

CHILDREN AVAILABLE

In Taiwan we work with individual orphanages which are supported by individual foundations. All are private, supported by donations coming through the specific foundation. Children are placed in the orphanages because they are relinquished by their birthparent(s) or because they are removed from the birthparent(s) care. It is possible to adopt boys or girls and in some cases siblings are available. They range in age from about 2 years to teenagers.

ELIGIBILITY TO ADOPT

Adopting parents must be at least 20 years older than the child they are adopting and in most cases not older than 55. The upper age limit has some flexibility when the couple is adopting an “older” child. Couples must have been married at least 2 years and be in good health.

PROCESS

There are two programs, one for families who would like to adopt a non special needs child of 2-5 years of age and one for families who are open to adopting an older child or one with some special needs. If a family would like to adopt a non special needs young child, the length of time to adopt is approximately one to two years. The family will complete their homestudy with Nightlight or an approved partner agency in their region if they do not live in Southern California. The homestudy will be sent to Taiwan and the family will wait for a referral. If a family is willing to adopt an older child or a child with special needs, they may make a decision on a waiting child that Nightlight will have information on.

All families will need to compile a dossier for the orphanage (which will be reviewed by a panel from the foundation supporting the orphanage), and all must file with U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (CIS). In Taiwan, the child’s U.S. visa will be processed by the American Institute in Taiwan, AIT, as there is no U.S. Embassy in Taiwan. If the family agrees that the child they have been matched with is the one they would like to adopt, the official proceedings take place. Nightlight recommends that the family travel to Taiwan to meet the child, although the trip is not required for a Taiwan adoption. A *Waiver of Preliminary Trip* form must be signed if the family chooses not to travel to meet the child before the adoption proceedings take place. The official adoption proceedings take about 6-8 months to complete; then the family will be able to travel to Taiwan to complete the process.

TRAVEL

After the court proceedings have taken place, the family travels to Taiwan to register the adoption with the Taiwan government and obtain the child's U.S. visa from AIT. This trip will take approximately 1 week.

COSTS

The costs for an adoption from Taiwan are detailed in the Fee Schedule. We make every effort to give you a realistic budget to avoid surprises. However, variations may result from differences in homestudy costs (if you live outside of Southern California or South Carolina) and travel costs (depending on the season you travel, additional sightseeing you wish to do, and any upgrades in air and hotel accommodation you may desire).

The program fee for a Taiwan adoption is \$23,250. Additional estimated expenses of \$6,700 – 10,100 will bring the total cost to approximately \$30,000 - \$33,400.

