

Nightlight® Christian Adoptions International Adoption Program Description

UKRAINE



GENERAL INFORMATION

Ukraine is Europe's second largest country. The mainland of Ukraine is flat fertile land, but the Carpathian Mountains rise in the West and the Crimean Mountains in the south. The capital of Ukraine is Kyiv.

Nightlight Christian Adoptions' Ukraine adoption program has been active since 1998. The fees for an international adoption from Ukraine are reasonable, and we estimate that the process will take about one year from application to completion depending upon the type of child you are seeking to adopt. Your wait time will likely be at the shorter end of this range if you are open to a special needs or older child.

Staying on top of the regulations and the idiosyncrasies of Ukrainian adoptions requires someone with firsthand knowledge of adoptions in Ukraine. Nightlight Christian Adoptions uses a facilitator in Ukraine to meet with key officials. Additionally, Nightlight is committed to helping families prepare for the adoption of children from Ukraine. Because Ukraine does not permit families to pre-identify a child before traveling, you will be identifying a child in-country. Our pre-adoption education requirements will help prepare you by providing information about developmental delays and health issues. Because of the nature of children in need of adoption from Ukraine, you will be learning about the adoption of children over 6 years old and/or children with special needs – and the resources you possess to parent such children.

The following websites are a useful place to start for reading more about Ukraine adoption and the country:

- <http://travel.state.gov/content/adoptionsabroad/en/country-information/learn-about-a-country/ukraine.html> U.S. State Department page about Ukrainian adoption
- <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/up.html>

CHILDREN AVAILABLE

Ukraine adoption is a wonderful international adoption program for families desiring to adopt children (5 and above) or children with special needs ages 14 months and older. Many sibling groups are also available. The types of special needs include HIV+, cleft palate/cleft lip, club foot, cerebral palsy, vision or hearing impairments; there are also more significant needs such as alcohol-related birth defects, Down Syndrome, and mental retardation. Many older children with only minor (and correctable health challenges are also in need of adoption (in the 6-15 range). Children who would otherwise have little hope for a future can have a better life with the emotional and physical security that a loving family can offer, along with the availability of excellent medical care in the United States. Sibling groups of 3 or more children are readily available.

ELIGIBILITY TO ADOPT

Based on Ukrainian law, you must be married and be at least 15 years older than the child you seek to adopt and no more than 45 years older than the child. If you have any criminal background or any mental health history, please let us know so that we can determine if the authorities in Ukraine will accept your application.

PROCESS

1. Make application to Nightlight Christian Adoptions.
2. Begin your **adoption home study** and submit form **I-600A** to USCIS.
3. Submit your home study to DAPRC and be registered. At this time, you will be given a date to submit your dossier.
4. Begin to assemble your dossier. While you are waiting for your USCIS approval.
5. Once USCIS has approved your petition, you will receive your I-171H pre-approval notice, which will complete your dossier paperwork.
6. Your dossier will be hand delivered to the DAPRC by our coordinator. Once your documents are submitted, they are reviewed and the coordinator will be notified that your dossier is in good order or if corrections need to be made. DAPRC takes 21 business days for review process.
7. Once your dossier is accepted and registered with DAPRC, it will be at least another 21 business before your invitation to travel is received.

TRAVEL & ADOPTION

You select your child once you are in the country. When you arrive in Kyiv, an English-speaking representative will meet you. The next day you will go to the DAPRC, where you will be given information about a child who is the same sex and approximate age that you requested. You will see a picture of the child and his/her profile information. Once you have identified a child to adopt and met with the child at his/her orphanage, you proceed in that region with the completion of the adoption. You will go to court and meet with a judge about 4-6 weeks after you have met with your child. At this time, you will be required to have a 10-day-wait period. During this time you can go home or you can stay in Ukraine. You then receive your child, and our coordinator will help you arrange to get your child's new birth certificate and Ukrainian passport, as well as file paperwork with the U.S. Embassy in Kyi for your child's U.S. visa. This process takes about 1 week to 10 days. Usually you will stay almost 6-8 weeks in Ukraine for the entire adoption process or you could make two or even three shorter trips.

The in-country stay gives you time to visit your child daily at the orphanage and to begin the bonding process. It is amazing to see how children change while their parents are there visiting with them. It is quite common for a toddler to begin walking during this time and reaching other developmental milestones. The bonding process is very important, and being in the country allows your child to transition from being in an orphanage to being with you, his/her new family.

POST ADOPTION

Within 30 days of your arrival home, you must have a home visit by your home study provider. Your home study provider will prepare post-adoption reports and submit them to Nightlight at 1 month, 6 months, 12 months, 2 years, 3 years, and then every 3 years until your child is 18 years old. These reports include your child's developmental progress and pictures. This is a very serious commitment; Nightlight is committed to showing Ukrainian adoption authorities that children adopted by US citizens are healthy and well cared for. Compliance with post adoption reports is also required by the Hague Convention. Therefore, Nightlight charges a fee to monitor and process these post adoption reports and also requires families to pay for the cost of the post adoption report in advance.

COSTS

The program fee for a Ukraine adoption is \$17,500. Additional estimated expenses of \$17,920 – 20,420 will bring the total cost to approximately \$35,420 to \$37,920. Your out-of-pocket expenses may be reduced if you receive scholarships or employer-provided adoption benefits. Adoption Tax Credit may also be available to you and we recommend you to contact a tax professional for advice. For additional fee information, please see Exhibit A.

Please contact Liana Stoddart at Liana@nightlight.org or 970-663-6799 with any questions.





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christian adoptions

...because every child deserves a loving family

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Getting Started CHECKLIST

1. Fill out Application Documents

- Fill out the Online Application here:
https://nightlight.mysamdb.com/SAM/Fm/ApplicationFormPart1_Nightlight_Edt.aspx
- Read and Sign the Agreement for International Adoption Services.
https://nightlight.mysamdb.com/SAM/Fm/AgreementforInternationalAdoptionServices_Edt.aspx
- Read and Sign the Statement of Risks Waiver
- Read and Sign the "Policy & Procedure" Form
- Upload your family photo
- Pay the application fee

**Please Note: Keep the Complaint form for your records; you may want to make a copy of the Policy & Procedure to also keep for your records.*

2. Complete your Orientation

Once we review and accept your Application materials, we will send you an acceptance letter via e-mail. Shortly after that you will receive an invoice for the orientation phase and then begin your orientation with your adoption advisor.

3. Obtain a Home Study

- **If you live in Nightlight's licensed area**, we will perform your home study. Once your application is approved, your adoption advisor will notify you how to get started on your home study with one of our Nightlight offices.
- **If you are out of Nightlight's licensed area**, we will help you find a local agency.

Please read our [FAQs](#) before submitting your application. If you have any questions please call our office: at 970-663-6799 or send us an e-mail at info@nightlight.org.

ATTACHMENT A
NIGHTLIGHT® CHRISTIAN ADOPTIONS INTERNATIONAL ADOPTIONS – FEES
AND ESTIMATED COSTS

UKRAINE

PROGRAM FEE	COSTS	TOTALS	NOTES
Application Phase			\$500 <i>Due with application</i>
Monitoring and Oversight fee charged by accrediting entity (Per child)			\$500 <i>Due upon signing the Agreement for International Services</i>
Program Orientation Fee			\$1,500 <i>Due before Orientation</i>
Dossier Phase			\$7,000 <i>Due with submitting of your registration documents</i>
<i>Nightlight Program Fee</i>		\$3500	
<i>Foreign Fee #1</i>		\$3500	
Referral/Pre-Travel Phase			\$8,000 <i>Due before travel to Ukraine</i>
<i>Nightlight Program Fee</i>		\$4500	
<i>Foreign Fee #2</i>		\$3500	
Total Program Fee			\$17,500
Sibling fees			\$7,500 fee per sibling adopted
Other Costs (Estimated)			
U.S.-Based Fees			\$8,495 – \$10,495
<i>Home study & Post Placements</i>	\$3,000 - \$4,500		<i>Costs vary by state/agency</i>
<i>Home Study Review Fee</i>	\$300		<i>Due upon review and approval of out of state home studies.</i>
<i>USCIS Filing and Biometrics Fees(2 adults)</i>	\$945		<i>Paid to USCIS</i>
<i>Processing of Post Adoption Reports/Shipping</i>	\$1250		<i>Processing of post-adoption reports, 4 reports completed by your social worker and monitoring of self-reports annually until your child turns 18. Due at travel phase</i>
<i>Dossier Authentication</i>	\$500		<i>Paid to the Service Provider.</i>
<i>Dossier Translation</i>	\$1,000		<i>Paid to the Service Provider</i>
In-Country Adoption Costs			\$9,425– \$9,925 Estimated for 2 persons and one trip
<i>Airfare (2 adults)</i>	\$3,000		<i>Paid to Airline</i>
<i>Airfare for child (one way)</i>	\$500		<i>Paid to Airline</i>
	–		
	1,000		
<i>In Country Travel and Accommodations</i>	\$4,500		<i>Estimated for 30 days. This would include housing, food, and incountry transportation</i>
<i>Official Translator Expenses</i>	\$500		<i>The family is responsible for translator’s travel and lodging in the region</i>
<i>Child’s new Birth Certificate and Passport</i>	\$500		<i>Paid in Ukraine to the passport agency</i>
<i>Child’s visa and medical</i>	\$425		<i>Paid to US Embassy and Clinic (fees are subject to change without notice by US Embassy and the Clinic)</i>
TOTAL FEES & ESTIMATED EXPENSES			\$17,920 – \$20,420
GRAND TOTAL			\$35,420 – \$37,920 <i>Range depends on factors such as your state, airfare cost</i>

The cost of operating an international adoption program is substantial and increasing with the additional compliance requirements under the Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption. The nature of international adoption makes it impossible to predict the exact costs you will incur, but we believe the estimates above are realistic. Program fees are paid in phases and are non-refundable. Nightlight establishes a budget for costs each year based on the number of adoptions it estimates completing during the year from each country. Based on these estimates, we establish program fees, taking into consideration the amount of staff time and expenses which will be involved in maintaining the program. Of course it would be prohibitive to allocate all of the costs (payroll, rent, insurance, supplies, travel, etc.) to one adoption in one program. **A late fee of 12% annual (1% monthly) will be assessed for fees more than 30 days past due.**

Please initial this page to confirm that you have received a copy of this List of Fees and Estimated Costs.

Date: _____ **Adopting Parents:** _____

Attachment B
 Nightlight Christian Adoptions
 INTERNATIONAL ADOPTIONS – FEES AND ESTIMATED COSTS
Ukraine

SERVICES CATEGORIZED PER HAUGE REQUIREMENTS	Ukraine
Home Study (including estimated out of pocket costs)	\$3,000 – 4,500
Adoption expenses in the US (includes personnel costs, administrative overhead, operational costs, training and education, communications and publications costs and other costs associated with providing adoption services in the US)	\$9,500
Foreign country program expenses (includes personnel costs, administrative overhead, operational costs, training and education, communications and publications costs and other costs associated with providing adoption services in the child's convention country)	\$7,000
Care of the child (the expected total fees and estimated expenses charged to PAP's for the care of the child in the country of origin prior to adoption, including, but not limited to costs for food, clothing, shelter, medical care, foster care, orphanage care and other services provided DIRECTLY to the child.	\$11,000
Translation and Document Expenses: the expected total fees and estimated expenses for obtaining any necessary documents, translation of documents related to the adoption and information on whether the PAP's will pay costs directly or to a 3rd party either in the US or Convention country or through the agency. Category includes but is not limited to, costs for obtaining, translating, copying records or documents required to complete the adoption, costs for Convention court documents, passport, adoption certificate and other documents related to the adoption, costs for notarization and certifications.	\$2,000
Contributions: any fixed contribution amount or percentage that the PAP expected or required to make to child protection or child welfare service programs in the Child's convention country or in the US along with an explanation of the intended use of the contribution and the manner in which the transaction will be recorded and accounted for. Fee is provided to Nightlight to be wired to Chung Yi	\$0
Post placement (PP) and post adoption (PA) reports: the expected total fees and estimated expenses for any PP or PA reports that the agency or parents must prepare to comply with requirements of the expected country of origin (and NCA requirements)	\$5,000

Please initial on both this page and the preceding page that you have received a copy of this List of Fees and Estimated Costs.

Date: _____ **Adopting Parents:** _____