

China

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Bethany's China adoption program began in 1992. Bethany Christian Services is a full-service China adoption program, and we work directly with the China Center for Children's Welfare and Adoption (CCCWA) in Beijing, the Chinese central authority responsible for processing all international adoptions of children from China. Children typically have little to no known family history, as they come to the orphanage after being abandoned by their families. Once the orphanage determines that the child is appropriate for international adoption, their file is sent to the CCCWA, who then releases the file to authorized adoption agencies for matching to a waiting family.

Children range from 12 months to 14 years at placement, with more boys available for adoption than girls. With the exception of a few "healthy" children over age 8, all children have special medical and/or developmental needs, ranging from minor to more significant.

Family Requirements	
Age	Adoptive parents must be at least 30 years old and no more than 63 years old at the time of dossier submission. Maximum age difference of 50 years between the youngest parent (or single parent) and the child being adopted.
Marriage	Minimum of 2 years. If either applicant has more than one divorce, applicants must be married at least 5 years. No more than two divorces per applicant.
Singles	Accepted, women only. Additional requirements may apply.
Income	Minimum household income of \$10,000 per household member (including child to be adopted). For single applicants, base income of \$30,000 for parent and child to be adopted, plus \$10,000 per additional household member. Net worth must be a minimum of \$80,000 (married) or \$100,000 (single).
Children at Home	Must be 5 or fewer minor children (under age of 18 years old) living in the home. For single applicants, must be 2 or fewer minor children living in the home. The youngest child in the home must be at least 3 years old.
Criminal	Arrests/criminal histories may be allowed on a case-by-case basis. Applicants with felony convictions or any history of drug usage will not be accepted.
Health of Adoptive Parents	Health and mental health conditions may be accepted on a case-by-case basis, particularly when one the other parent in a married couple is healthy. Body Mass Index (BMI) must be less than 40. A psychological evaluation is required for any current or history of mental health diagnosis.
Concurrent Adoptions	Allowed.
Travel	
One trip of approximately 12-21 days is required. Average time in country is 2 weeks.	

Process

Wait for referral following dossier submission ranges from 0-30 months, dependent on family openness to age, gender, and special needs.

Families open to adopting a child with more significant needs or over 6 years old may be eligible for a referral before their dossier is sent to China.

Once a family has both accepted a referral and submitted their dossier to China, the wait until travel is 3-6 months.

The adoption is finalized in China and children receive automatic citizenship upon arrival in the United States.

Post-adoption visits and reports are required by a social worker at: arrival, 3, 6, 9, 12, and 24 months. Informal self-reports are submitted to the Bethany China team by the family at 36, 48, and 60 months.

*Estimated Fees and Expenses

Country Fee	\$8,610 - \$9,280
Third Party Fee	\$985 - \$2,464
Travel Fee	\$8,575 - \$14,350
Bethany Fee <i>*Below is a breakdown of Bethany estimated fees and expenses.</i>	\$18,350 - \$19,350
Preliminary Application	Free
Formal Application	\$550
Global Services Fee	\$2,000
IAAME Accreditation Fee	\$500
Home Study Services	\$2,500 - \$3,500
Program Fee 1	\$6,050
Program Fee 2	\$4,150
Post-Adoption Services <i>*This fee includes four post-adoption visits. Additional fees will be assessed if additional visits are required.</i>	\$2,600
*Total Estimated Cost	\$36,520-\$45,444

*Please use our [fee calculator](#) to get an estimate of fees based on your zip code for adopting from China.