

INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION PROCESS - PAKISTAN

1. **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:**

Marital Status/Age Requirements:

- * East Indian Families or one marital partner who is East Indian.
- * Couples must be married for at least three years.
- * Applicants up to the age of 45 are considered for placement of an infant.

2. **AVAILABLE CHILDREN:**

- * Children under three years of age
- * Children with special needs.

3. **RECOGNITION OF ADOPTION:**

Adoption is not recognized under Pakistan law. Therefore, an adoption finalized in Alberta is not recognized in Pakistan.

4. **DOCUMENTS REQUIRED:**

All documents must be submitted in English. A listing of the dossier documents must be notarized by a Notary Public. Each listing page must be stamped and signed by the Notary. Three sets of the Notarized package and one set of a non-notarized package should be supplied to Adoption Services. The non-notarized package will be held on file by Adoption Services. Applicants should hold a copy for their own file.

- Home Assessment Report completed by a licensed adoption agency. The Home Assessment is not valid unless accompanied by the Provincial Letter of Approval.
- Provincial Letter of Recommendation/Approval to adopt from Pakistan issued by Adoption Services.
- Birth Certificate for both applicants.
- Marriage Certificate.
- Canadian Citizenship Certificate (if applicable).
- Recent Medical Report for each applicant outlining physical and mental health.
- Financial Statement, most current Income Tax Return for each adult, Letter from Bank confirming assets.
- Letters from employers indicating salary, length of service, type of work, etc..
- Two Letters of Recommendation from references.
- Recent photographs of the family.

5. **APPLICATION PROCESS:**

Applicants register for a Ward International Adoption from Pakistan by completing the form (SSA 2777) available at private licensed adoption agencies or on the Children's Services Web Site at www.child.gov.ab.ca. The completed form is forwarded to:

Adoption Services, Alberta Children's Services
11th Floor, Sterling Place
9940 - 106 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2N2

- Adoption Services provides authorization to the applicants to obtain the Home

Assessment Report from a licensed adoption agency. The International Adoption Parent Preparation Course is part of the assessment process. The Home Assessment is valid for one year. Updates are required on an annual basis or when significant changes occur.

- The applicants submit the Home Assessment Report and all supporting documents to Adoption Services. Adoption Services forwards the adoption package to the authorized agent in Pakistan. Applicants should indicate from which orphanage they wish to adopt.
- Applicants must advise Adoption Services of any changes in their circumstances during the international adoption process (e.g. pregnancy, birth of a biological child, adoption by an alternate option, absence from Alberta, move to different accommodations, poor health, financial or marital changes).

6. CANADA IMMIGRATION:

The adoptive applicants should contact Canada Immigration to complete a sponsorship application and initiate the immigration process **as soon as they have submitted their complete adoption dossier.**

7. WAITING PERIOD FOR CHILD PROPOSAL:

Not specified but may be up to three years.

8. CHILD PROPOSAL/ACCEPTANCE:

The family's dossier is reviewed and a child is selected for the family by Pakistan. The child's medical, social background and photographs are forwarded to Adoption Services. Adoption Services deals with any issues, and presents the child matching proposal to the adoptive parents.

The applicants, in consultation with their doctor, consider the proposal and confirm in writing their acceptance or decline of the proposed match. If accepting of the match, the applicants contact their adoption co-ordinator or agent to arrange for travel to Pakistan.

9. LETTER OF NO OBJECTION:

Adoption Services provides a Letter of No Objection for immigration purposes upon receipt of the applicant's letter of acceptance of the match.

10. ADOPTION FINALIZATION:

**** ADOPTIONS FROM PAKISTAN ARE FINALIZED IN ALBERTA **.**

(Please Note: There have been some difficulties finalizing adoptions of children from Pakistan due to lack of documentation. Therefore, adoptive parents may encounter delays.)

- Muslim adoptions cannot be completed in Pakistan.
- Adoptive Applicants arrange for the Passport and a Canadian Visa for the child.
- Adoptive Applicants must inform Adoption Services [Telephone: (780) 422-0178 Fax: (780) 427-2048] of the child's arrival in Alberta.

FINALIZATION PROCESS IN ALBERTA

- Adoptive parents provide Adoption Services with the following after the child enters Canada:

- Notarized copy of the child's Passport
- Notarized/certified copy of the child's Record of Landing (form IMM 1000 (CON) 3-92 B)
- Notarized/certified copy of the Consent of the Guardian to the child's adoption.

Adoption Services forwards the Consent of the guardian, the notarized copy of the child's passport and the notarized copy of form IMM 1000 to the applicant's private licensed adoption agency. The agency will prepare, sign and file the adoption petition in court for finalization. As indicated above, there may be delays in finalizing the order in Alberta.

11. POST PLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS:

Adoption Services provides authorization to a private adoption agency to complete post placement reports until the adoption is finalized. The reports are completed at the adoptive parents' expense.

12. ESTIMATED COSTS:

All costs are approximate and are the responsibility of the adoptive parents. The costs include the following:

- Home Assessment Report and International Adoption Parent Preparation Course
approximately \$1,700.00
- Documents such as Birth Certificates, Marriage Certificate,
Criminal Record Checks, Medicals - approximately \$ 300.00
- Notarization of Documents - approximately \$ 300.00
- Courier costs - approximately \$ 300.00
- Airfare and living expenses in Pakistan - approximately \$6,000.00
- Canada Immigration Sponsorship Fee - \$ 100.00
- Child's International Birth Certificate, Passport,
Visa, Medical Examination - approximately \$ 500.00
- Post Placement Reports/Finalization - approximately \$1,200.00

Total Approximate Costs = \$11,000.00