

TAIWAN

The Taiwanese culture is kind, warm, and welcoming to adoptive families. We have a great relationship with Cathwel Service, and enjoy partnering with them. They come alongside families to help make their experience as seamless as possible.

Adoption Requirements

- Adoptive parents should be between 25 and 55 years old.
- Couples married at least 3 years can adopt
- Rarely single women may be able to adopt
- Taiwan may accept US families living in Taiwan as expats

Children Coming Home

- Children 3 or more years old with a range of medical needs
- Sibling groups are common
- Typical medical needs can include:
 - history of abuse and neglect, developmental delays, Cerebral Palsy, Spina Bifida, Epilepsy, Hydrocephalus, or behavioral and attention disorders in older children

Travel

- 1-2 trips may be required
- First trip: 1 week (if presiding judge requests family's attendance)
- Second trip: 1 week

There are typically 3 to 5 months in between the adoption trips.

Matching Overview

- Request to match with a waiting child after home study is finalized
- Cathwel holds a matching meeting to select the family to pursue the child's adoption.
- Child's legal guardian or birth family reviews and approves the adoption plan.
- A court process will finalize the adoption
- Estimated timeline for matching is 1-2 years from requesting a match to placement





Process Timeline

Application

The full application gathers in-depth information from families who wish to adopt from Taiwan. Your application is reviewed by our Taiwan team to affirm you are eligible for this program.

Immigration

Throughout this approval process families will complete required paperwork and be fingerprinted for approval to adopt within certain parameters. Families then apply to immigrate a specific child to the US through adoption. Adoptions from Taiwan include one additional step of pre-adoption immigration review, to provide to the Taiwan courts preliminary approval for the child to immigrate the US.

3 months

Dossier

Once your family is matched, Cathwel will send the remaining documents required to complete your dossier. Lifeline will compile and authenticate your dossier for you, which includes about 17 documents from your adoption process. It will then be sent to the program country for their official files and review.

2 to 3 months

Post Adoption

Lifeline continues to provide post-adoption support to families long-term. In addition to a family’s social worker, Lifeline’s Counseling Team and educational services are helpful resources for families. Four post adoption reports are due to Taiwan within the first year home. Additional self-reports may also be required according to a post adoption agreement. A Lifeline worker will also call to check-in periodically to provide resources and support.

Home Study

During this part of the process, social workers and families will talk extensively about various aspects of a family’s life such as finances, health, home life, capacity for care, and overall well-being. In addition, families will be part of specific training for how to parent children from trauma backgrounds.

3 to 4 months

Matching

Families are able to review files of waiting children and can submit a matching request after their home study is finalized. A matching meeting will be held in Taiwan to discuss the prospective adoptive families who have submitted matching requests. A family is chosen to pursue the adoption of that child by the matching committee and the plan is presented to child's legal guardian, which may include birth family. The final approval is given by a judge after a dossier is submitted in a court process that leads to adoption finalization.

varies based on openness (can range from 5 to 18 months)

Travel

During trip 1, if required, families will meet with the child(ren) as well as attend a court date with the presiding judge. During trip 2, the **ADOPTION IS ALREADY FINALIZED**. Families will spend time bonding with their child, custody will be transferred and they will attend the child's visa appointment. Many Taiwan adoptive families have the opportunity to meet birth family members during their time in Taiwan, which provides a unique opportunity to minister to their child's family. There is some time for sightseeing and cultural experiences during this trip.

Varies based on local district court process

Chronological Fee Tool

Application Fee \$300
due at the time of application

Agency Fee A \$4,425.00
due upon program acceptance, 2 weeks
after application

Agency Fee B \$4,425.00
due at completion of home study,
roughly 3 to 4 months after application

Agency Fee C \$4,425.00
due at dossier submission, 6 to
9 months after application

Agency Fee D \$4,425.00
due prior to Adoption Trip, as early as 12
months after application

Third Party Fees \$2,230.00
third party fees are estimated and
include home study fees, dossier fees,
and US governing body required fees

Foreign Program Fees \$7,200.00
representative, in-country facilitation,
and translation fees - these are paid to
Lifeline but used for foreign program
services

Travel Fees \$18,540.00
Estimated for two adults traveling to
adopt one child. Expenses may vary
based on time of year, preferences, and
needs.



Travel Details

Trip 1

If the judge requires, families will travel to Taiwan for 1 week to attend a court hearing and meet their child(ren). Families also may meet birth family members on this trip.



Trip 2

The adoption trip is approximately 7-10 days long. The family will have about 3 days of gradual bonding with the child before the child is in the family's care. After receiving the child into care, families will attend important appointments to complete visa paperwork. During this trip, families may also have the opportunity to visit with birth family members.

While in-county

Lifeline's has an amazing in-country partner, Cathwel Service, who provides support during their stay in Taiwan. Families will fly in and out of Taipei and complete visa appointment in Taipei. Families will also travel to their child's county for gradual bonding. Taiwan is open to families traveling with their children already in the home and our team helps to prepare your family if you choose to bring your children on the adoption trip.



Meet the Team



Lifeline has a team of professionals who love the Taiwan adoption program. The team enjoys guiding families through the adoption process and advocating for waiting children.



Lifeline is honored to partner with, [Cathwel Services](#) in Taiwan. Cathwel has been a long-time advocate and expert of child welfare in Taiwan and a wonderful partner in facilitating adoptions in partner



“The journey to bring our son home from Taiwan was one of the most challenging and rewarding seasons our family has ever experienced. Lifeline was with us every step of the way, praying with and for us, answering questions, guiding and preparing us, and shining Jesus' light as they walked alongside us. We had many delays in our process due to the global pandemic, but God in His goodness used those delays to make a way for Jude to be our son! God used the ministry of Lifeline to change our lives forever by helping complete our family. Our son Jude is loved, cherished, chosen, and we are so grateful God chose us to be his forever family. Through the trials of the process, God showed his abundant goodness and faithfulness. He sets the lonely in families (Ps 68:6) and it has been a privilege and joy for our family to experience this kind of love.” – The Grant Family

"Our adoption process from Taiwan started in the summer of 2020 and we traveled to bring our daughter home in December 2022. We are so appreciative of Lifeline's support, help, and guidance. One of the most helpful things for us was how Lifeline connected us with other Taiwan families so we could walk through the process together. Pre-travel and while in-country, Lifeline was available and ready (no matter the hour or time difference!) to help us with what we needed. Adoption, and all that goes with it, is hard and our faith (and that of our biological kids) has been challenged, stretched and strengthened through this process. But God has been so faithful! Lifeline continues to support us post-adoption by connecting us with helpful resources. We are so thankful for Lifeline's Taiwan team and our local team for helping us bring our daughter home!" – The Baas Family



“The process of adoption is long and at times, seems to stand still, but now having completed this journey, I sit staring at our newest son and it seems like only yesterday we decided to trust God's calling and grow our family. Adoption is not the easiest road to take, but with God's timing, Lifeline's help, and lots of prayer we were able to complete piles of paperwork, communicate with our son thousands of miles away, and finally travel to Taiwan as a family to meet him and experience his culture. Lifeline was a tremendous blessing as they facilitated each step of the process both here in the US and during our two week stay in Taiwan.” – The Tate Family