

FAQS- Brazil

1. How long has Lifeline been working in this country?
Since April 2015
2. How are you matched or referred to a child in this country?
A family can be matched directly by a state central authority office (CEJA) or through the waiting children's files issued by state & federal central authority offices. This would only occur officially once a dossier was approved by ACAF.
3. My spouse and I have not yet been married the length of time for the marriage requirement. Can we go ahead and begin the home study?
This time is set forth by the central authority. Although Lifeline cannot waive any of the requirements, if you have been married close to the requirements, we would encourage you to start your home study process. Your dossier cannot be submitted until you have reached the minimum for length of time married.
4. What if I or my spouse has heritage from this country and/or is a dual citizen? Would we get any special exceptions in the adoption process?
We have been told that Brazilian families residing outside Brazil will receive priority, but a family must still be open to the ages & needs of the program. Brazilian heritage families residing outside Brazil will not receive referrals for babies, toddlers, or younger children without medical needs.
5. Is this country Hague or Non Hague?
Hague
6. What is the ethnicity of the children?
The ethnicities of children vary significantly from Brazilian, indigenous, European, Afro-Brazilian, or biracial descent.
7. Do children reside in foster homes or orphanages?
This will vary by state/region in Brazil. There are very small orphanages as well as foster homes.
8. What are some common medical needs you see with children under 8 years old?
At this point, we have seen children under 8 years old having more moderate to significant medical needs, such as down syndrome, microcephaly, and more.
9. We would like to adopt a specific child (whether family member or someone we met once on a trip to the country). Is this possible?
Technically, this is not permitted unless a special exception is made by the central authority. Families in this situation will need to consult with Lifeline staff and understand that there will be inherent risks until the adoption is finalized in country. In addition, all children to be adopted internationally must first be declared abandoned in this country.
10. How do families afford the adoption process or take time away from work for so long to finalize in country?
Lifeline seeks to be a resource and support to each family throughout the process. If finances are a concern, please speak to one of our intake workers or program points. Lifeline would encourage families to apply for grants/ scholarships and will be here to assist in any way possible. For the time in country, many families use vacation/sick time, FMLA leave, or work out an agreement with employers to work part time from "home" in the country.