

Lifeline Children’s Services, Inc., Latin America, Adoption Process

Main Steps	Lifeline Adoption Process:	Notes
Apply with Lifeline	Pick country	
	Apply	Application online www.lifelinechild.org
	Meet Lifeline Program Coordinator	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Call • Orientation Interview 	<p>Within a few days of approval</p> <p>Within a few weeks of approval</p>
Home Study	Home Study Process: (3-4 months)	With Lifeline or other Home Study Agency
Immigration (600A or 800A)	Immigration – 800A (60 -90 days average)	Will need new set of fingerprints for USCIS (biometric fingerprint appointment will be issued by USCIS)
Dossier	Dossier - specific process for each country (takes 3 months average to compile)	NOTE: This process will happen concurrently with the Immigration process. Some documents (FBI clearances, employment letters, and more can be used again for this stage).
	Submit dossier to representative for translation (approximately 2-3 weeks)	
Approval	Submit dossier to central authority for review and approval (depends on country)	<p>Brazil: 2-3 months</p> <p>Colombia: 1-3 months</p> <p>Costa Rica: 2-3 months</p> <p>DR: 1-3 months</p> <p>Honduras: 3-6 months</p> <p>Peru: 3-6 months</p>
	Receive country’s response , provide your response, and wait for final approval	<i>*All countries: Once the dossier has been submitted, the central authority may request more information or additional documents</i>
Matching	<p>Receive Referral (depending on country, can vary from 2 weeks to 3+ years)</p> <p><i>*if country has Waiting Children, this process can move much faster, if not it can take a long time</i></p>	<p>Brazil: 1 month - 2 years</p> <p>Colombia: 1-18 months</p> <p>Costa Rica: 1-18 months</p> <p>DR: 1 month -24+ months</p> <p>Honduras: 1 year - 4+ years</p> <p>Peru: 1-24+ months</p>
Immigration (800)	Immigration Approval to receive travel permission	All countries: 1-month average
Travel	<p>Travel to country in 1 trip</p> <p>Some countries have flexibility where one spouse can return after an initial period</p> <p>Honduras: 2 trips, 1st trip 5-10 days, 2nd trip 4-8 weeks (3-6 months between trips)</p>	<p>Brazil: 6-8 weeks</p> <p>Colombia: 3-5 weeks</p> <p>Costa Rica: 4-6 weeks</p> <p>DR: 5-6 months</p> <p>Peru: 6-8 weeks</p>
Finalize Adoption Post Adoption	<p>Finalize adoption in country</p> <p>Follow-up services (Post Adoption Reports)</p>	