

CHINA WAITING CHILD AGREEMENT

Please read carefully before signing and returning to HFC via fax (770-391-1566) or email (Aisha@hopeforchildren.org). By signing this agreement, you are not agreeing to adopt a specific child. You are simply letting us know that you understand and agree to the procedure and guidelines of our Waiting Child Program.

HOPE for Children is privileged to work with the China Center of Adoption Affairs (CCAA), located in Beijing, China, in placing children with many different kinds of special needs. It is important to us that each family who inquires about a child on our Waiting Child list understand our procedure in placing a child from this program into a forever family. The CCAA has recently changed to an online Waiting Child System. Due to this change there are a few changes in our program. Please read the following information very carefully.

1. Once we receive this signed agreement, we will then email you a copy of the child's fully translated medical report from China of which you are inquiring. Up to two (2) families may review one child's medical information at a time for a maximum of four (4) days each. Each family will need to have the medical information reviewed by a *specialist* in medical field of child's stated medical condition(s). It is the responsibility of each family to pay for any expenses incurred due to having the medical information reviewed by a specialist or otherwise as they consider adopting a specific child on the list.
2. At the time of inquiry of a particular child, HFC will let the first family know whether another family is currently reviewing that child's information or not. In the event that there are two families who have inquired about a specific child, and one of them chooses to not pursue adopting that child, HFC will notify the other family. A selection committee at HFC may meet sometime before the 4th day to discuss the family's situation and work towards making an official decision as to whether this family can move forward with adopting the child. If this happens, the family will be notified as to when the committee will meet. The committee will notify the family of the final decision within 24 hours or the next business day.
3. If the family or families decide *at any time within the four (4) days* that they would like to proceed with adopting the child in question, they will need to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) via online. The online LOI will include the following information: Your personal experience with special needs children, contact with specific resources to assist the particular child if chosen to adopt him or her, your plan for rehabilitation and nurturing of the child, annual salary, net worth (total assets minus total liabilities), any criminal record, and the number and ages of children under the age of 18 in the home. Each family inquiring about a child must also obtain a type-written letter (addressed to the family) from their health insurance company stating that an adopted child will be covered under their insurance plan at the time of the adoption regardless of any special needs. Also, the statement needs to include the fact that pre-existing medical conditions will be covered by their insurance at the time of the adoption. The insurance statement and online LOI must be submitted to HFC before the selection committee can meet to make the final decision. If two families are pursuing one child, HFC will notify both families as to when the committee will be meeting. We (HFC) will also notify both families within 24 hours or next business day of the committee meeting of the final decision. After the final decision has been made and both families have been notified, the child will be officially placed "On Hold" once HFC has received the completed application and application fee of \$275.
4. Once a family has been chosen, HFC must receive a completed application for adoption (found on the homepage of HOPE for Children's website: www.hopeforchildren.org, click on "Apply Now" at the top of the page) and fee (\$275) within two (2) business days. **For returning HFC families, the application fee will be waived.** The goal in moving forward quickly is to help you bring the child home as soon as possible. HFC will submit the chosen family's online LOI via email to the CCAA once the application and application fee have been received. The CCAA will review and process the LOI. If approved, they will issue a Pre-Approval (PA) to HFC via email.

5. One of the China Program Coordinators will contact you after we have received your PA from the CCAA to help you get started on preparing your dossier. HFC's fees for a Waiting Child adoption are the same as the fees for a traditional Chinese adoption with one exception: the dossier administration fee is \$1,015 (vs. \$1,405).

6. If you have not already submitted your dossier to the CCAA, you will have five (5) months from the date we receive your PA from the CCAA to complete and submit your dossier. This is a requirement of the CCAA, and if it is not followed, they reserve the right to deny your application.

Disclaimer: HOPE for Children fully trusts God to guide our decision in placing each child from our Waiting Child program. We understand that the process of the Waiting Child program can be quite emotional due to the nature of having pictures and medical information of specific children before they have been matched to a family. It is important for each family to understand that the child they are considering for adoption is **not** yet "their child" simply because they have the child's picture and medical information in their possession for review. We recommend not disclosing your adoption plans of a specific child to other children in the home until you have been chosen by the selection committee and subsequently your online application has been sent to the China Center of Adoption Affairs. **It is imperative that photographs and medical information of the children in HFC's Waiting Child program not be posted on the internet for any reason until a family has been chosen. All information given is confidential and is not to be reproduced in any fashion without express permission from HFC. If you have any questions, please contact the China Department.**

WAITING CHILD PROGRAM AGREEMENT

By signing below, we understand and agree to abide by the aforementioned procedures, fees, and paperwork deadlines in HOPE for Children's Waiting Child program. If we have questions about this procedure, we agree to ask them before signing and submitting this form.

**We recommend that you give a copy of this agreement to your social worker who is performing your home study so he or she is aware of these requirements.*

Adoptive Applicant

Date

Adoptive Applicant

Date