

## Adopting from Vietnam

Current as of October 2006. This information is subject to change; therefore, check with an agency that places from this country for the most current information.

<b>Parental Age</b>	Couples and singles must be at least 20 years older than the child they wish to adopt. There is not upper-limit for adopting from Vietnam, but some agencies have limits.
<b>Length of Marriage</b>	No country requirements, but some agencies have limits.
<b>Divorce</b>	No country requirements, but some agencies have limits.
<b>Children in Family</b>	No specific limit, but may need special permission if you have more than 4 children at home.
<b>Single Applicant</b>	Single women. Some provinces allow single men.
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Does not knowingly place with homosexuals; single applicants will be required to sign an affidavit stating that they are heterosexual and the home study must confirm this.
<b>Children Available</b>	3 months to 15 years at referral; special needs; rarely sibling groups.
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	Asian
<b>Gender</b>	Boys and girls; parents can request gender although this may extend the time; some agencies require childless applicants to accept either gender
<b>Adopting more than one unrelated child at same time</b>	May be possible, but is not encouraged.
<b>Travel in Country</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 trip of 2-3 weeks;</li> <li>• Only 1 parent is required to travel</li> <li>• Parents usually do not travel in groups, but with larger placing agencies may travel in small groups</li> </ul>
<b>Referral Method</b>	Standard; Referrals either sent to adoption agency which then matches to family on their waiting list or matching is done in-country by a provincial committee (depending on the agency's individual agreement with that province).
<b>Wait for referral (after dossier submitted)</b>	Given the nature of the matching process, the waiting time depends on how many applicants an agency has; therefore, it varies greatly by agency. Call various agencies to find out current times. Most agencies report a shorter wait for a boy.
<b>Wait after referral</b>	3-6 months
<b>Approximate Cost</b>	\$20,000-24,000 + travel

<b>Adequacy of medical reports</b>	Unknown since it is a new program.
<b>Youngest Age Upon Arrival Home</b>	6 months, but 10 to 12-months more common.
<b>Orphanage/Foster Care</b>	Government orphanages.
<b>How children enter government care</b>	Relinquishment or abandonment due to extreme poverty or stigma against unwed motherhood.
<b>Prevalence of FAS</b>	Not enough placements to get a consensus from the IA doctors interviewed, but historically, drinking among pregnant women is uncommon.
<b>Number of children placed in the US 2002- and 2005</b>	No historic data available since the program shut down in 2003. In the last few years before the shut down, Vietnam placed over 700 children per year in the US.
<b>Program Stability</b>	Unknown since it has reopened
<b>Growing/Declining</b>	Unknown
<b>Post Adoption Reports</b>	Required once every six months for the first 3 years and then one report annually from the 4 <sup>th</sup> year until the child is 18 years of age. The requirement is still not completely clear, but the assumption is that the home study agency must prepare the first six reports.
<b>Hague Treaty</b>	No
<b>Additional Information</b>	Vietnam closed in January 2003 and reopened for international adoption in 2005 with placements beginning in 2006. Adoptions finalized in Vietnam, but readoption required if only 1 parent travels.
<b>Useful Links</b>	<p>US Department of State <a href="http://www.travel.state.gov">www.travel.state.gov</a>, click on Children &amp; Family, click on Country-Specific Information</p> <p>Agencies must be licensed by the Vietnamese government to place children. A list of currently licensed US agencies along with other Vietnam adoption law/process information can be found on the US Embassy in Hanoi site at <a href="http://hanoi.usembassy.gov/orphan_visas.html">http://hanoi.usembassy.gov/orphan_visas.html</a></p> <p>Adoptive Parents of Vietnam <a href="http://www.comeunity.com/apv">www.comeunity.com/apv</a></p> <p>Adopt Vietnam <a href="http://www.adoptvietnam.org">www.adoptvietnam.org</a> and a print newsletter is also available</p> <p>Families with Children from Vietnam <a href="http://www.fcvn.org">www.fcvn.org</a></p>