

Philippine Adoption Program

An interesting program that is stable and a very good option for those who are patient and/or open to older or special needs children. Most of the children speak English and are in good care facilities.



Adoptions from the Philippines are processed through **Saskatchewan Ministry of Social Services**.

Residents of Saskatchewan who wish to adopt a child from another country must make an application to Social Services and meet the requirements for inter country adoption. Individual assessment is made on each application based on the ability of the prospective adoptive parent(s) to successfully parent an adopted child. Contact your nearest social services or the central office for more information.

Ministry of Social Services

12th floor, 1920 Broad Street

Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 3V6

(306)787-5698

Many foreign countries have specific eligibility requirements for adoptive parents, in addition to suitability to adopt, such as maximum or minimum age, marital status, etc. At the start of planning, prospective adoptive parents should ensure they meet the criteria of the country to which they plan to apply for adoption.

Children Available: Children of all ages, 6 months -14 years including infants, sibling groups and waiting children, are available for adoption. The children are of Asian/Malay/Spanish descent, and come from orphanages and foster care throughout the Philippines.

The most common reasons for these children becoming available for adoption are social situations within the family, economic conditions including (extreme poverty), death of parents or a legal decision.

Parent Qualifications: Couples and single women may adopt from the Philippines, however, single women are asked to adopt children over the age of 5 years. There are no age or family size requirements; however, many individual agencies have their own criteria.

Travel: Travel usually occurs about 3-5 months after acceptance of the referral. Only one parent needs to travel, although it is desirable for both parents to go. All paperwork and processes are completed before arriving in the Philippines. Total travel time is usually 5-7 days.

Timeline: For children 0-5 years of age, referrals occur in approximately 18-24 months after approval by the Inter country Adoption Board of the Philippines. For couples who are of Philippine heritage, the wait is approximately 12-18 months. For children aged 6 and up or school aged siblings, the wait is 6-18 months. Matching of children for Special Needs (waiting children) by the Inter country Adoption Board will occur in 1-6 months.

Program Highlights

- * Personalized matching process is done by representatives of orphanages in the Philippines
- * Detailed medical and developmental information
- * Travel is brief; only one parent is required to travel
- * Caregiver ratio is above average in many of the orphanages.
 - Many of the government run orphanages and some of the private ones provide life books for the children.
 - The fees are very reasonable and all procedures are very transparent. Under \$10,000 including travel.

One of the official languages of the Philippines is English making it very easy to converse with social workers and officials. This also makes international travel very easy. The country is predominately Christian and they have a strong active faith.

Once your child is home you will have 3 post placement visits from your social worker. These reports are forwarded to the Philippines and then with their approval your adoption is finalized in Canada.

All adoptions in the Philippines are overseen by a government body, the Inter country Adoption Board. This is their web site which provides all requirements for your extensive dossier.

<http://www.icab.gov.ph/>

Web sites of interest:

Philippines: An overview

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philippines>

<http://www.gov.ph/>

<http://www.dswd.gov.ph/ProgProj.php?id=63>

<http://www.cscshelter.org/>

<http://nlch.org/>

<http://www.rebothchildrenshome.com/>

<http://www.chosenchildrenvillage.com/>

<http://www.bonchi.jp/joy/>

<http://www.charismabethel.com/>



Philippine adoption forums:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/adopt-philippines-international/>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/adopt-philippines-usa/>