

The China Center of Adoption Affairs (CCAA,) the central authority overseeing China adoptions, determines the eligibility requirements for adoptive parents. According to the CCAA's government policies and practices (published December 11, 2006) adoptive families must meet the following guidelines to adopt through CASI's China program.

Marriage Requirement

- Couples who have no previous marriages must be married at least two years at the time of application with CASI. Couples who have previous marriages must be married at least five years at the time of application with CASI. No more than two previous marriages per couple are allowed.
- Single applicants are no longer able to apply for adoption.

Age Requirement

- Couples must be at least 30 years old to submit their adoption application with CASI.
- Couples age 30 to 49 years of age may adopt a child with no known medical problems or a child through the Waiting Child Program.
- Couples age 30 to 54 years of age may adopt a child through the Waiting Child Program.

Health Requirement

- In order to provide responsible care to a child, couples must be in good physical and mental health at the time of application.
- No major physical or mental health diagnosis may be present at the time they submit their application with CASI.
- If an applicant has a history of taking medication for mild depression or anxiety, they must be medication free for at least two years prior to applying.
- Surgery of major organs must have occurred more than 10 years ago.
- Each applicant's body mass index (BMI) must be 40 or under. (BMI equals a person's weight in kilograms divided by height in meters squared.)

* If you have any known medical (physical or mental) condition and have questions, please call CASI for a personal consultation.

Financial Requirement

- Either the husband or wife holds a stable job.
- Annual income must total \$10,000 per person in the home including the prospective adoptee.
- Family should have a net worth value of at least \$80,000.
- Family income cannot include welfare subsidy, relief fund, pension, unemployment insurance or any other form of government subsidy.

Education Requirement

- Both husband and wife must have received education of a high school diploma/ GED or vocational skills training of the same level.

Children in the Home Requirement

- Youngest child in the home must be no younger than 1 year in age.
- No more than four children under the age of 18 currently residing in the home at the time of application with CASI.
- Adoption of Special Needs Children will be exempt from this limitation.

Criminal History

- Both husband and wife do not accord with the following situations:
 - Have a history of domestic violence, perpetrator of sexual abuse, abandonment or abuse of a child/ren (even if they are not consequently arrested or criminated.)
 - Any history of drug or alcohol abuse within the past 10 years.
 - Adoption applicants will be given consideration on a case by case basis for the following:
 - Either the husband or the wife has less than 3 criminal records of slight severity with no severe outcomes and the time for correction of wrong doing has reached 10 years.
 - Applicants have less than 5 records of traffic law violation with no severe outcomes.

The CCAA has stated that applicants wishing to adopt through China and that do not meet all the requirements may still apply. However, those applicants who meet all of the requirements will be given first priority. If you do not meet the requirement but still wish to go through the process at your own risk, you may do so. CASI cannot assure a referral in such cases.