



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Highlights

- Primarily a "Waiting child" Program

Children

- 18 months and older at time of referral.
- Children of all ages with special needs, older children (over the age of 7 years), or sibling groups who are eligible for international adoption.

Bulgaria Intercountry Adoption Requirements

- 25 and older, married or single. No more than a 50-year age difference between parents and child.

The Wait to Welcome Home

- Dossier submission to ministry approval: 1-2 months.
- Ministry approval to referral: 2-4 months for Waiting Children. 5+ years for children under 7 without special needs.

Excited to Travel

- 1st Trip: 7-8 days
- 2nd Trip: 10-12 days
 - 4-6 months between trips

Children's Adoption Services





PROGRAM OVERVIEW EXPLAINED

THE CHILDREN

In Bulgaria, children are cared for in orphanages, in centers of familial type (with groups of up to 15 children), or in foster families. Special care is taken to keep sibling groups together. School-aged children attend local schools, and in case of need, participate in individual education programs.

Bulgaria has a highly professional social services system in which children receive care from a team including medical specialists, child psychologists, and social workers. Children are educated about the adoption process in an age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate manner. Children have access to a wide range of programs to help their development; commonly, school resource teachers, speech and physical therapy, and local sports and drama clubs. Children who are 10 years and older share their perspective about being adopted with adoption officials in Bulgaria.

THE PROGRAM

Carolina Adoption Services works in partnership with an NGO in Bulgaria. Our partner agency obtains information on children who are eligible for international adoption. This information is shared with CAS and these children are featured on our Waiting Child photo listing.

The Bulgarian Ministry of Justice (MOJ) releases information on these children to accredited Adoption Service Providers to share with potential adoptive families. This information includes their social history, medical information, photos, and even information on their personality and hobbies. Families have the option to engage with CAS about specific children from the waiting child photo listing on our website. Once their home study has been completed, they apply with the MOJ to be adopted by the specific waiting child. It takes 2-4 months to be approved to adopt a waiting child, which is quicker than the traditional option of registering with the MOJ and waiting for them to match the family with a child. We receive new Waiting Child profiles every 2-3 months. Families interested in adopting a Waiting child should check our photo listing regularly.

THE PROCESS

When a family's dossier is submitted, it will be translated into Bulgarian and presented to the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), the country's central adoption authority. The MOJ will approve a waiting child match or identify a referral. Adoptive families will travel for a bonding trip within 2 months of receiving a referral. Acceptance paperwork is processed at the end of the first trip.

In between trips, paperwork is presented to the MOJ for approval and then presented to the court. Once the adoption is final, the family will make the second trip to Bulgaria. Both parents are expected to travel on the first trip. Only one parent must travel on the second trip. Parents are met at the airport by an in-country representative and are escorted throughout their trips. Once matched, families are able to maintain contact with their children sometimes through video calls and letters.



BULGARIA: COSTS AT A GLANCE

**Home Study & Primary Provider: Home Study, Placement, & Post-Adoption (available in NC, SC, & VA)*

Total Costs

Placement Only: \$21,715 - \$25,210

Full Service (Home Study & Placement): \$25,515 - \$34,645

Learn More

800.632.9312

info@carolinaadoption.org

childrensadoptionservices.org

Call, email or visit our website to learn more, schedule a time to speak with one of our experts, or get started on your adoption journey!

Connect with CAS

Follow us on Facebook or Instagram, sign up for e-mail updates, or register for our Waiting Child photo listing to receive news, updates, and resources for every step of your parenting journey.

Paying for Adoption

A Federal Tax Credit is available to qualified adoptive parents. This and other resources like grants and low-interest loans can help reduce costs. Please visit our website for more information.

Visit these pages for more information:

[International Adoption](https://childrensadoptionservices.org/international-adoption/)

<https://childrensadoptionservices.org/international-adoption/>

[Bulgaria](https://childrensadoptionservices.org/project/bulgaria/)

<https://childrensadoptionservices.org/project/bulgaria/>

[Request a Consult](http://childrensadoptionservices.org/adoption-information-request/)

<http://childrensadoptionservices.org/adoption-information-request/>

[Post Adoption Reporting](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/Intercountry-Adoption/Intercountry-Adoption-Country-Information/Armenia.html)

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/Intercountry-Adoption/Intercountry-Adoption-Country-Information/Armenia.html>

