

# CCAI Colombia Winter Host-to-Adopt Frequently Asked Questions

## **What are the dates of the Colombia Winter Host-to-Adopt Program?**

The hosting dates are November 30 - December 28, 2022.

## **What airport will the children fly into?**

- We do not yet know which airport the children will fly into, but it will likely be either Houston or Miami.
- While we facilitate hosting in every state, host children will arrive at the most central international airport in relation to where the majority of children are being hosted in the U.S. Host families must travel to the identified airport to pick up the child/children they are hosting and return them to that location for departure after the hosting session is complete.

## **Are the host children available for adoption?**

Yes, all of the host children from Colombia are available for adoption. Colombia views this hosting opportunity as a path to permanency through adoption.

## **Can I host a child if I am not inclined toward adoption?**

No, you must be open to adopting from Colombia.

## **Can I adopt my host child?**

Yes, it is possible! Colombia views hosting as a pathway to permanency, and the hope is that host families will go on to adopt. Once the children return to Colombia, they will be interviewed to confirm their desire to be adopted internationally. If both the qualified host family and the host child want to proceed with adoption, then it can happen!

## **Who are the host children?**

- Children from Colombia are 10+ years of age; occasionally children under age 10 who are a part of a sibling group.
- Single children and sibling groups of up to 4
- Children with emotional, medical, and educational needs

## **Who can host a child?**

1. Hosts must be at least 25 years old and typically should not be more than 45 years older than the child they host.
2. Hosts can be married couples or singles. Single men can host only boys.
3. No member of the host household can have a conviction for any violent crime or a crime against a child. Other types of prior convictions such as drug or alcohol abuse/DUI will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
4. Hosts must be in good physical and psychiatric health.
5. Prior psychiatric hospitalization or history, and/or use of psychotropic medication, may deem an applicant ineligible for hosting.
6. The host family's home (house or apartment) must provide a safe environment and include adequate space. A host child may share a bedroom with at most one child of the same gender who is a similar age or older than the host child.
7. A past disrupted or dissolved adoption or denial by a home study agency may deem applicants ineligible for hosting.

### **What is expected of the host family during this process?**

Host families are expected to:

- Involve the children in day-to-day family living in a safe, loving, and nurturing environment
- Provide a bed for their host child; the child may share a room with a child of the same gender who is a similar age or older than the host child
- Take a minimum of one week off work to spend time with the host child(ren)
- **Host the chaperone in your home for 3 to 5 days**
- Report weekly to CCAI
- Check in weekly with the chaperone

### **Must host families speak the child's language?**

Although it is helpful when families speak the child's language, it is not required. Most families do not find the language barrier too difficult to navigate. Families who have previously hosted say they were able to overcome communication barriers using translation apps and other techniques.

### **What is the chaperone's role?**

Chaperones are representatives from the children's country and may be social workers, psychologists, directors, and/or government officials.

- They have power of attorney for the children.
- They ensure that the children have a safe visit and get to know the families who might apply to adopt them. **All host families must plan to have the chaperone stay in their home for 3 to 5 days during the child's visit.**
- Chaperones check in with the children each week, assist with any translation needs, and write reports on the child's visit to help facilitate future adoption.

### **Can my hosted child travel with me?**

Yes, your host child may travel with you within the U.S. with prior notice to CCAI. The children cannot travel outside the U.S. during the hosting session.

### **Do the children have health insurance while they are in the U.S.?**

A basic major medical and accident policy is purchased to cover each child and chaperone participating in the program while in the U.S. The insurance will pay a portion of covered services under established "reasonable and customary" fee guidelines and the type of service. There is no deductible. Families are expected to pay any uncovered services.

### **I want to host! What is my next step?**

1. Read the FAQ's, application packet, and application
2. Register to view the children who are participating the Host-to-Adopt Program
3. View the children's profiles
4. Complete and submit the Colombia application
5. Contact CCAI to discuss the specific child or siblings you are interested in hosting
6. Upon approved match, submit the application payment and arrange the following:
  - Host families must undergo a psychosocial visit (PSV); current home studies for Colombia will be accepted. These are due to CCAI by October 7, 2022.
  - Anyone in the household age 18 and older must complete background checks and child abuse clearances.

- Host parents must complete 12 hours of CCAI's online Hague training as well as CCAI's host training.
7. Pay remaining hosting donation payments as they are due.

**What is the cost to host?**

- \$250 **application payment** is due when you are matched with a host child.
- The hosting donation payment is \$2,500. Half of the payment (\$1,250) is due one week after you are officially matched with a host child and the remaining balance will be due by October 7, 2022.
- All hosting donation payments are tax deductible.
- All costs related to hosting are completely separate from adoption fees and expenses.

**Are there any additional costs to host a child?**

- A psycho-social visit (PSV) report completed by a licensed child placement agency/home study agency or social worker in your state of residence. If you reside in Colorado, Wyoming, Texas, Georgia, or Florida, then CCAI will complete your PSV for an additional fee.
- Criminal and child abuse clearances
- Airline tickets for your host child from arrival airport to your state of residence and return to departure airport
- Elective services such as dental visits and optometry exams are at the cost of the host family, however many times practitioners may offer significant discounts for host children.
- Food, clothing, activities, etc.