



Burkina Faso Adoption Program Overview

All Blessings International, Inc. is one of the few adoption agencies in the United States to be accredited to facilitate adoptions from the country of Burkina Faso. The Burkina Faso program is a special needs program with children having minor to severe medical special needs. The children are typically older children. Due to the fact that this is a new program, it is difficult to give a time frame, but it is estimated to be anywhere from 18-24 months.

Children Available: The Burkina Faso program is a waiting child program. Please contact Kim Gray at kim@allblessings.org in order to view the waiting child photo listing.

General Adoptive Parent Requirements: Only heterosexual couples married at least five years may adopt from Burkina Faso. Prospective adoptive parents must be between the ages of 30-55 years old, and be at least 15 years older than the child they plan to adopt. The Burkinabe government prefers the adopted child to be the youngest in the home and no child in the home of a similar age. No more than 4 children may be living in the home.

Adoption Process: The adoption process from Burkina Faso can appear overwhelming initially. However, it is a step-by-step process and ABI will guide you. The first step in adopting from Burkina Faso is to have a **Home study** conducted by an agency licensed in your state of residence. The second step, that can be done concurrently, is to file your Immigration and Naturalization Paperwork: the **I-800A**.

Dossier: Your family will need to create a dossier for adoption. A dossier is a compilation of documents, which require various seals at different levels of government. ABI, Inc. will provide adopting families with exact directions about how to prepare their dossier and an up-to-date Dossier document list when they have decided on their specific country. Don't be overwhelmed- we'll help you with this and ABI Inc. will even manage dossier preparation and domestic and international mailing!

Referral: The wait time for a referral from Burkina Faso will vary based on age, gender, and special needs of the child the family is requesting. Referral information includes as much detail as we receive from our overseas counterparts.

Travel. Travel is strongly recommended for both parents for approximately two weeks in order to complete the adoption.

Post-Adoption: Reports following a child's placement for adoption are required to be completed by a licensed adoption agency (typically the same one that conducted the home study) at 1,3, 6, and 12, months following placement. These are sent by ABI to Burkina Faso. After these reports the adoptive family is required to submit a written report once a year up to the child's 18th birthday.

