

## Types of Adoption

	<b>Domestic Infant Adoption</b>	<b>International Adoption</b>	<b>Relative Adoption</b>	<b>Step-parent Adoption</b>	<b>Adoption from Foster Care — called “Special Needs Adoption”</b>
<b>Definition</b>	A birth mother creates an adoption plan and often chooses which family adopts her child/infant. (The birth father may also be involved in the process)	A child from another country is adopted and becomes a citizen of the United States..	A relative adopts. “Relative” is defined by Wisconsin Statute 48.02 (15) as a parent, grandparent, step-parent, brother, sister, first cousin, nephew, niece, uncle or aunt who is related to the child by birth or marriage.	A spouse adopts the child of another spouse.	A single person or a married couple adopt a child from the child welfare/foster care system.
<b>Ages of Children Available</b>	Generally 2 days-1 month.	Ages 9 months and older.	Any age.	Any child whose parents’ rights have been terminated or one parent has died.	Most children range in age between 5-18 years.
<b>Approximate Cost</b>	Domestic agency: \$12,000-\$25,000; Independent: \$10,000-\$30,000 (typically)	\$25,000-\$50,000 (depending on the country and travel requirements)	\$2,500-\$4,000	\$500-\$2,500 (depending on legal actions needed)	The state of Wisconsin will pay for the home study process and training requirements.
<b>Who Can Adopt?</b>	Anyone can adopt, as long as they pass the home study process. (typically birth parents are choosing adoptive parents in their mid 20s and lower 30s)	Each country has its own set of policies.	Anyone who is a relative and passes the home study process.	A spouse of a birth parent who has passed the home study process (most agencies hold the policy of 1 year of marriage).	Any family considered safe and appropriate who has gone through the foster care licensing process and who also has been approved for adoption can adopt.
<b>How Long Will It Take?</b>	Depends on the case, typically 6 months-2 years.	4-6 months for the home study; waiting time for placements can vary greatly between countries.	Time involved differs on a case-by-case basis.	Usually involves four steps: termination of parental rights, petition to adopt and order for investigation, the agency investigation and the hearing on the adoption. Time involved varies on a case-by-case basis.	Licensing as a foster parent approved for adoption typically takes 3-4 months following receipt of a completed application. Time to placement varies based on what is determined to be the best match for the family. Determination of eligibility for permanency through adoption typically takes 18 months or longer.