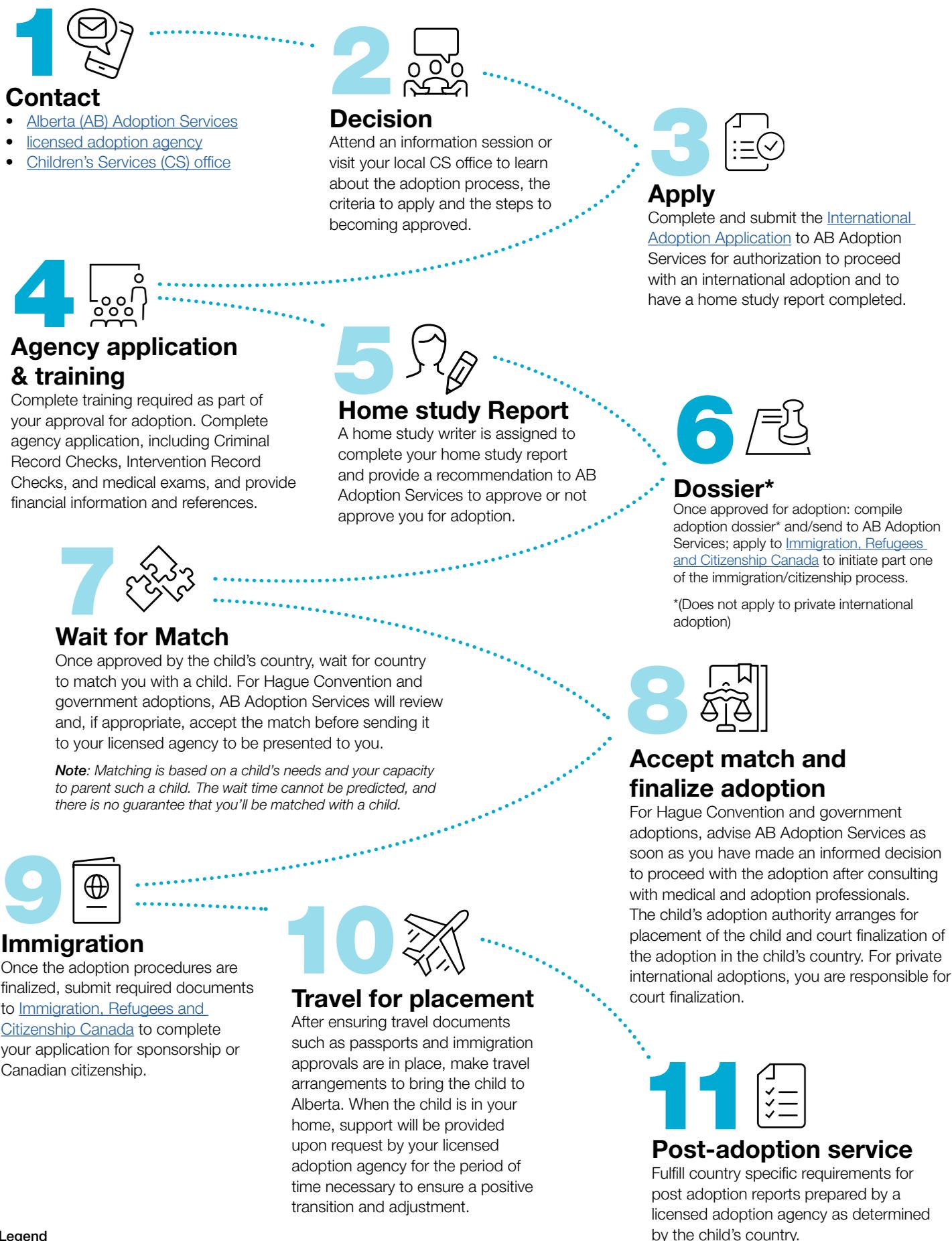


Legal permanency adoption

Adopting a child who lives in another country.

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has the sole authority for admitting a child to Canada. Visit the [Government of Canada](#) website to obtain information on immigration/citizenship application processing times. The three types of international adoption are Hague Convention, government and private international adoption. International adoption is complex, and programs change as the requirements of the countries of origin change. Most international adoptions take an average of three to four years to be completed and cost between \$15,000 and \$40,000. Process and costs vary by country and/or type of adoption. Review the [International Adoption Guidebook](#) for additional information.

To adopt a child, you must be an Alberta resident; be at least 18 years old; demonstrate financial and domestic stability; be physically and mentally capable of parenting an adopted child; and meet country specific eligibility requirements.



Legend

Process with predictable timelines.

Process with unpredictable timelines.