

Sri Lanka Eligibility Requirements



In addition to the U.S. requirements, prospective adoptive parents must meet Sri Lanka's requirements to adopt a child from Sri Lanka:

- **Residency:** Foreign citizens residing in Sri Lanka are not permitted to adopt Sri Lankan children. There is no requirement that PAPs must reside a certain amount of time in Sri Lanka, either before, during, or after the adoption. However, both parents must be present at the Sri Lankan court proceedings.
- **Age of Adopting Parents:** Both prospective adoptive parents must be over the age of 25 and not less than 21 years older than the prospective adoptive child.
- **Marriage:** Under Sri Lankan law, single individuals cannot adopt; married couples must jointly apply for adoption. Although existing laws in Sri Lanka does not expressly prohibit same-sex couples from adopting, in practice, same-sex couples are not found eligible to adopt a child from Sri Lanka.
- **Income:** There is no specific income requirement, but the selection criteria of the Department of Probation and Child Care includes the health, age, and income of the family.
- **Other:** Generally, both spouses must be present during the court proceedings unless the court waives personal appearance on the grounds of ill health (supported by the opinion of a medical practitioner who is licensed to practice in the United States). In such cases, the spouse who is unable to travel must provide a power of attorney to the spouse who will represent him/her in court.
- Prospective adoptive parents who do not have children will be given preference over parents who already have two or more children.

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