



# POLAND

Poland is located north of the Czech Republic and Slovakia, south of Lithuania and the Baltic Sea, east of Germany and west of Belarus and the Ukraine. The country covers 120,726 square miles (about the size of New Mexico) and has a population of 28.6 million. Children come into care because their biological parents could not care for them. Sixty-five percent of the children available for adoption reside in orphanages and thirty-five percent reside in foster care.



**Available Children:** Boys, girls and sibling groups up to the age of 16; children with correctable medical conditions, or health issues that typically will improve when the child is placed in an appropriate environment, are available for adoption. The wait time for a referral is between three and 26 months. A referral for sibling groups of three or more children and one or two older children is usually made within eight to ten months. Generally these children are healthier than 1 or 2 very young children. The fees for this Polish program related to the adoption of a sibling group are the same as for the adoption of a single child.

**Eligibility:** Eligible couples should be married for three years. There should be no more than about 40 years between the age of parent(s) and child. Single women are eligible to adopt children 10 years of age or older. Divorced persons are eligible to adopt. Parents should demonstrate a vibrant and healthy lifestyle. The desire and ability to maintain the children's Polish heritage is important.

**The Adoption Process:** As with all international adoptions, an approved home study, clearance from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and the completion of a foreign dossier is required. After the dossier is submitted, a referral of a specific child from Poland, including photos, background and medical information is provided. If the parents are interested in the child/sibling group presented to them, they submit a list of questions. After the questions are answered, the parents make a decision to adopt or not.

**Travel:** Two trips to Poland for both parents (if applicable) are required. The first trip occurs between three weeks and three months after the initial referral acceptance and lasts two to three weeks. During the first trip, the prospective adoptive parents meet their foreign attorney and their child/sibling group. After spending about two weeks with their child(ren), the parents adopt the child(ren) in family court. The adoption is finalized and legal in 21 days. A second trip to Poland four to five weeks later is required to obtain the child(ren)'s passports and visas. The duration of the second trip is five to seven business days. There are three Post Placement reports required over a two year period.

In order to provide families with a wider variety of international adoption programs Christian Adoption Services, Inc. coordinates adoptions from Poland through Huminska'a Anioly. Under this arrangement CAS provides direct services, specifically the home study, post placement services and re-adoption services while Huminska'a Anioly serves as the placing agency. As a Hague accredited agency, CAS works closely with Huminska'a Anioly to ensure the services provided are Hague compliant and address all requirements of USCIS, Huminska'a Anioly and Poland.

The fees listed below are associated with direct services performed by Christian Adoption Services. For specific information on placement fees associated with each program please visit the Huminska'a Anioly web site at <http://www.adoptionspolish.com/>

### CAS Fees and Expenses<sup>4</sup>

Home Study Application Fee (due with application)	\$ 200.00
Home Study Fee (due prior to home study interviews)	1500.00
Coordination Fee <sup>1</sup> (due upon completion of home study)	600.00
Post Placement Services <sup>2</sup> (due upon placement)	900.00
Re-adoption in North Carolina <sup>3</sup>	
File Petitions	(family or attorney)
Report to Court (due prior to document filing)	<u>500.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,700.00</b>

*All fees are non-refundable.*

<sup>1</sup> **Coordination Fee:** Fees associated with Hague Accreditation, related insurance costs, and administrative support staff.

<sup>2</sup> **Post Placement Services:** The fee is based on a maximum of three post placement visits/reports. If more than three visits are required, the remaining visits will be billed at the agency's current prevailing rate.

<sup>3</sup> **Re-adoption:** CAS encourages all parents of international children perform this additional step. Re-adoption consists of two parts, filing the petitions and preparing a report to the court. While the petitions can be filed by the adoptive family or by an attorney, the report to court must be filed by a licensed agency.

<sup>4</sup> **Payment:** All CAS fees and expenses are to be made payable to CAS via cash, check or credit card (Visa or MasterCard). Payments made via credit card are subject to a 2% processing fee.

*Many families will qualify for the adoption tax credit of approx. \$12,150 per child as created by the Hope for Children Act. Possible North Carolina adoption tax credit is 50% of the allowable tax credit claimed on your federal return.*



**Huminska's Anioly**