

July 2024 **New section added to reflect Statement of Changes HC 590**

Immigration Rules Appendix Adoption

The adoption routes under Appendix Adoption allow a child under the age of 18 to apply to come to the UK either to be adopted or after being adopted overseas.

Temporary Permission and Settlement

If a child is granted temporary permission under Appendix Adoption, they must later apply for settlement either under paragraph 298 in Part 8 or according to the settlement route of their adoptive parent.

Where an adoption occurs in a country where the adoption is recognized under UK law, and the adoptive parent(s) were residents in that country at the time, the adopted child may apply as a dependent child on the same route as their parent(s).

Four Adoption Routes

1. Hague Convention: This route applies to adoptions facilitated by an adoption agency under the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption. While most Hague Convention adoptions are completed overseas, some countries require the adoption to be finalized in the UK, necessitating entry clearance for the child to come to the UK for completion of the adoption.

2. Recognized Overseas Adoptions: This route allows a child to apply for entry clearance to come to the UK if they have been adopted overseas in a country where the adoption is recognized under UK law, or if the adoption has been recognized by an order of the High Court in the UK.

3. De facto Adoption: This route is for children who have lived with their adoptive parent(s) overseas for at least 12 months, with a genuine transfer of parental responsibility, allowing them to apply for entry clearance to the UK.

4. Coming to the UK for Adoption: This route is for children from countries whose adoptions are not recognized in the UK. The child must apply for entry clearance to be adopted under UK law. The relevant UK authority must issue the adopters with a certificate of eligibility to adopt, where applicable.



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