

Holt Home Study Guidelines

South Korea Requirements

These guidelines are **in addition** to what is listed in the Holt General Home Study Guidelines document.
Only sections with additional requirements are included.

HOME STUDY SUMMARY

Korea also requires a Home Study Summary (maximum 2-3 pages) to accompany the home study. Please use our template. Many of the details can be copied/pasted directly from the home study; make sure details like finances match the home study EXACTLY.

HEADER

- Include date home study approved by Holt.

SUMMARY OF AGENCY CONTACTS

- Two separate in-person home visits, at minimum, are required. These visits must take place after the family's application date.

OVERVIEW OF THE FAMILY/MOTIVATION TO ADOPT

- Do not state that a family desires to adopt a sibling group. If family is open to more than one child, it should be clearly stated as being open to twins. (Sibling groups that are not twins are not a possibility for Korea, only twins.)

APPLICANT(S)

- For applicants with current Korean citizenship:
 - Include their Korean name in the home study, meaning the Korea order. Example: "Sung Bae Kim's Korean name is Kim, Sung Bae."
 - If their spouse is Korean American, please include their Korean name as it appears on the marriage certificate (using the sentence that appears above).

HEALTH STATUS:

- Include statement about the required psychological evaluation report and outcome: *As required by South Korea, (NAME) also underwent a routine psychological evaluation on (DATE). (NAME) was found by a licensed psychologist to be of sufficient mental and emotional stability to parent a child.*
- Leave out specific medication names for any health conditions and leave it generic. Example: *(NAME) is diagnosed with (CONDITION) which is well controlled with medication and does not impact his/her ability to parent a child.*
- Include a statement that there are no concerns for alcohol or substance dependence.

CHILDREN IN THE HOME

- For families who have previously adopted, please briefly discuss the adoptee's transition and attachment.

PARENTING SKILLS AND VALUES

- 10 hours of Hague parent training required for each adoption process (i.e. repeat adoptive families must have 10 *new* hours of training per adoption process).
- Omit this wording from parent training paragraph:
 - *They are prepared to parent a child who is delayed due to institutionalization. The family understands and accepts that a child may have health care/diagnosis according to the normal "standards of care" for an institutionalized child from another country, which may not necessarily be the same level as for children in the U.S.*

RELIGION

- Interested in faith of family. Discuss family's willingness to accept whatever their adopted child's decision is for religion in the future.

HOME, COMMUNITY, FINANCES

FINANCES:

- Make sure that amount of assets are broken down and listed by category (checking/savings accounts, retirement accounts, stocks/bonds/other investments, vehicles, personal property, etc.), not listed as a lump sum of total assets. Assets and amounts must be include and match exactly on the home study summary for Korea as well.
- If family owns additional property (rental home, etc.) please include location (city/state) and property value. If family receives rental income from another property, include monthly rental income amount.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

- At a minimum, families need to be approved for all conditions included on the Medical Conditions Checklist for Korea, along with any additional conditions families have been assessed and approved for.
- Although USCIS is interested in approval for a child's age at time of referral, Korea wants to see approval for the oldest age possible at time of placement, with a window of time available if a child's process went longer than typical for any reason. Therefore, we need to see families approved at minimum for a child 0-3 years old.