



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Social Services

2409 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2409

Courier # 56-20-25

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor  
Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

Sherry S. Bradsher, Director  
(919) 733-3055

**March 17, 2009**

**DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

**ATTENTION: LICENSED CHILD PLACING AGENCIES  
PRIVATE ADOPTION AGENCY DIRECTORS**

**SUBJECT: PRE-APPROVAL LETTERS FOR INTERNATIONAL ADOPTIONS**

We are pleased to inform you that effective immediately, letters of pre-approval from the North Carolina Division of Social Services Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) office will no longer be necessary for international adoptions. Pre-placement assessment should continue to be forwarded to the United States Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS) office. The ICPC office does not need a copy of this pre-placement assessment.

Historically, standard procedure required that pre-placement assessments for families adopting internationally would be forwarded to the ICPC office. Subsequently, this office would forward a pre-approval letter to the USCIS office. With this change, our office will not issue pre-approval letters as standard practice.

It is our goal to provide excellent customer service to our partners. Therefore, we encourage you to forward any comments or questions to Carla McNeill, the interim team leader of the ICPC team. Ms. McNeill can be contacted by phone at (919) 334-1105 or by email at [Carla.McNeill@ncmail.net](mailto:Carla.McNeill@ncmail.net).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charisse S. Johnson".

Charisse S. Johnson, Chief  
Child Welfare Services

cc: Sherry S. Bradsher  
Sarah Barham  
Child Welfare Services Team Leaders  
Children's Services Program Representatives  
Regulatory and Licensing Services Consultants  
Jack Rogers  
Richard Gottlieb, USCIS, Charlotte  
Jeff Saygo, USCIS, Raleigh

**CWS-16-09**