



TIPS WHEN CONSIDERING A CONSULTANT FOR YOUR COA HAGUE ACCREDITATION OR APPROVAL

COA's implementation of the Hague Convention is designed to ensure that organizations of every size and stage of development can successfully navigate the process. We recognize, however, that accreditation consulting is a common practice in the field. **COA does not endorse or certify consultants.** If you choose to retain a consultant, we strongly recommend that you:

1. Remain fully involved in all aspects of the accreditation process.
2. Clearly define applicable costs, timeframes, responsibilities and outcomes.
3. Ask for references and carefully check them!
4. Select a consultant who:
 - Worked in a supervisory capacity for an agency providing intercountry adoption services.
 - Has experience with accreditation.
 - Is knowledgeable about the Hague Accreditation/Approval process and the applicable regulations.
 - Has experience with an agency of similar size, structure and services.