CHINA DOSSIER PROJECTED TIMELINE

Step 1

Contract with a Home Study Agency

Read through the dossier guide to familiarize yourself with the process.

Step 2

Compile Mailer 1

- Start by ordering vital records, scheduling medical evaluations & contacting a notary.
- Scan documents to your dossier specialist to review as you complete them.
- Time to complete mailer 1 = No more than 2 months

Step 3

Complete your home study

- Time to complete = 3-6 months
- Most agencies will not schedule home visits to begin the process until all required documents are submitted to them.
- It imperative to confirm that you have completed all steps necessary to begin the home study, or this will delay your dossier being sent to country.

Step 4

Apply to USCIS

- After you receive your original approved home study from your social worker, and complete the I800a application forms, you will be ready to apply to USCIS.
- Time to complete / obtain approval = USCIS has up to 90 days to issue the I800a approval

Step 5

Compile Mailer 2

- After obtaining I800a approval from USCIS & having it notarized, you should be ready to send in mailer 2.
- Go through mailer 2 checklist to ensure you have everything needed

Step 6

Sending in Mailer 2

- After you send in mailer 2, it will take around 3-5 weeks to have your documents certified and authenticated
- After both of these steps are completed & all fees are paid – your dossier will be sent to China.
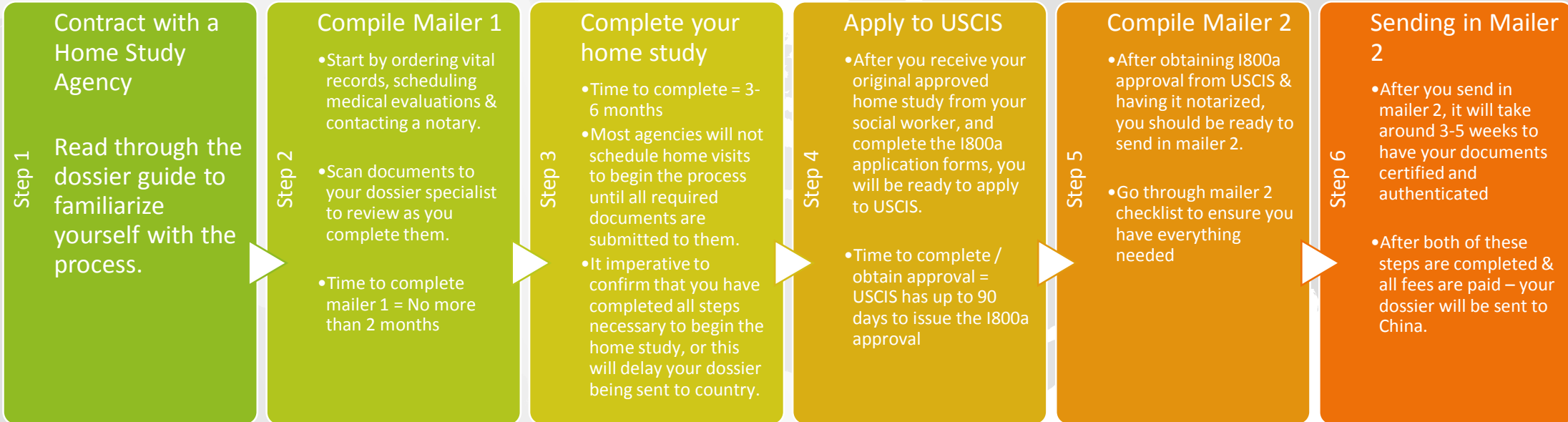
TIPS:
- Each step in the dossier process is highly dependent on the state that you live in and their specific processes
- You will need to work on the home study and mailer 2 at the same time, but will have time to complete mailer 2 after you have a completed home study and apply to USCIS.
- BE CAREFUL: Pay close attention to what notary language your state requires. This is very important and can delay having your documents certified if the language is incorrect.
- It is always helpful to scan documents to your dossier specialist throughout the process to ensure they are correct.
- Never hesitate to ask for examples/templates of documents.