

The Agency Vetting Checklist

Surrogacy in Colombia · Bring this to your agency intro calls

COLOMBIA
SURROGACY GUIDE

Not every question applies to every intended parent — check the boxes relevant to your situation and don't accept vague answers on those. Use the lines to record each agency's response, then compare across programs. The clauses to watch for are on the back page.

1 · AGENCY BACKGROUND & PROGRAM STRUCTURE

- How long have you operated in Colombia specifically, and how many cases have you completed for IPs from my country / in my situation?

- How many embryo transfer attempts are included, and what's the cost for additional transfers?
Watch the "fulfillment" language — see back page.

- Do you offer a guaranteed program? What are the eligibility terms, and what's actually guaranteed — a live birth, or a pregnancy?

- What's the current wait time to match with a surrogate? (Ask for current data, not historical averages.)

2 · LOGISTICS & MEDICAL CARE

- Which fertility clinic(s) do you work with, and is the clinic exclusive to your agency?

- What information will I have about the egg donor — photos, detailed profile, both?

- Will I have a direct channel of communication with the surrogate?

- What are the conditions and cost for re-matching with a surrogate — including failures with no clear medical cause?

- Which hospital(s) do you use for delivery, and what's their NICU capacity?

- Who is named on the initial birth certificate, and what's the legal process for the final one?

- What's the realistic exit timeline for IPs from my country, in my situation?

3 · FINANCIALS & CONTRACT TERMS

- What's not included in the package fee (PGT, NIPT, screening, miscarriage compensation, extra transfers, exit costs), and how much should I budget on top?

- What are the payment milestones, and how large is the upfront deposit?

- Is there an independent third-party escrow or trust account, and how are funds released?
Commingled client + operating funds is a red flag.

Clauses to Watch For

Real examples from agency contracts, with what each one is really telling you.

TRANSFER ATTEMPT COVERAGE

The Contract is valid for up to **three (3) embryo transfers** from a given shipment of embryos and considered fulfilled when either three transfers have been conducted or a minimum fourteen (14) week gestational age pregnancy has been achieved, after which a new Contract will need to be entered.

Watch: "Fulfilled" can trigger at a 14-week pregnancy even on transfer one. If all three fail, you sign and pay for a new contract. Confirm the count, what counts as fulfilled, and the next contract's cost.

GUARANTEE PROGRAM TERMS

Guarantee program contract period is X years from initial deposit of genetic materials. To be accepted, you must undergo: complete semen analysis, sperm culture, sperm DNA fragmentation, complete blood analysis, karyotype... *additional exams may be requested by the clinic.

Watch: The guarantee has a time limit and eligibility screening — you may not qualify. Confirm what's guaranteed, what voids it, and whether you're eligible before relying on it.

SURROGATE RE-MATCH FEE

Surrogate change fee — the cost if a surrogate is changed after the 1st transfer with a medical indication — covers new screening, medical evaluations, and legal fees.

Watch: Covers re-matching after a failure with a documented medical cause — and isn't free. Ask what happens when there's no clear medical cause, or when you want to switch for personal reasons.

INDEPENDENT ESCROW (A GOOD SIGN)

Payments for the program may be paid into an account operated by an **independent and unrelated surrogacy escrow company** legally incorporated in the United States, releasing that company from liability as long as prompt payment of necessary fees is made.

Watch: Funds going to an independent third-party escrow — not the agency's own account — is what protects you and the surrogate if the agency hits trouble. Verify the escrow company exists independently and is named in your contract.

▮ GENERAL RED FLAGS

- No verifiable track record with international intended parents
- Refusal to disclose escrow / fund-handling arrangements
- Large upfront deposits with vague or undefined milestones
- Reluctance to put verbal commitments in writing
- Suspiciously short matching or exit timelines; inconsistent quotes between reps