

## **Southeast Mission Trip FAQ**

### **How does the Southeast Missions Ministry decide where to take short-term mission teams?**

All Southeast mission trips serve alongside current mission partners and church plants.

### **If I want to serve on a short-term mission team, how do I decide on a trip?**

You can find the Current Missions Trips list here [here](#). A complete trip description and details can be found by clicking on the trip name. Feel free to reach out to missions staff or the trip leader to ask further questions.

Short-term mission trips can be a rewarding and life-changing experience. They can also be stressful. Please consider factors in your personal life at this time that may distract and prohibit you from fully committing to the mission of the trip and adapting to unusual conditions.

Some trips may be prohibitive for certain physical and medical conditions. If you have physical or medical limitations, please apply for a trip in which you are physically able to participate. If you have concerns about any possible limitations, please discuss this with the Missions Staff and trip leader.

There are some trips for a particular group or campus. Some trips require certain skills. Please read the trip description, requirements, and prerequisites in the online trip information.

### **Do I have to be a Southeast Christian Church member or attendee to participate on a mission trip?**

*Yes, all trip participants must be an active Southeast members or attendee for at least 6 months with verifiable attendance/participation. If you have specific question about this, please contact the Missions Ministry.*

### **What are the age requirements?**

Team members must be 18 years or older, unless the trip description states otherwise (i.e. student ministry trips or family trips).

### **How do I apply for a trip?**

Current online trip information and application can be found [here](#).

You must complete the online application, pay the non-refundable trip deposit and submit all required paperwork before your application will be reviewed and processed.

### **What happens after I apply?**

Your application will be reviewed and a personal interview maybe required. You will be notified when you are approved as team member.

### **What are the trip requirements?**

Please see the trip-specific information page for complete details.

General requirements include, but not limited to:

- Team members must complete a Southeast Confidential Volunteer Application, which includes

a criminal background check for those 18 and over.

- Team members 18 and over must complete the MinistrySafe Online Training and review the Southeast Child Safety Policy.
- Participants must adhere to the Team Covenant at all times.

### **How do I pay for the trip?**

Trip participants are encouraged to invite friends and family in their efforts to raise financial and prayer support for the mission trip. Raising support is an integral part of your short-term mission experience. God could be waiting for an opportunity to show you how big He is!

Trip participants may begin fundraising after having been notified of acceptance to the team and informed of proper fundraising procedures. Detailed fundraising guidelines, materials, and deadlines will be provided at your 1st Team Meeting.

If full support is not raised, any balance is the team member's responsibility. Each trip has designated due dates for half and final funds. These dates are listed in the application and must be adhered to.

### **What does the trip cost include?**

Trip cost includes airfare or ground transportation to the destination; lodging; food and transportation while on site; emergency medical insurance and international visas. The trip cost does not include required or recommended immunizations or medications for travel, passport application or renewal fees, souvenirs, and airport food.

### **Are there pre-trip meetings? Pre-trip preparation?**

It is important that team members attend all meetings to fully prepare for the trip individually and as a team. Dates are listed along with the information for each trip. Please verify that you are available for all meetings prior to applying for the trip.

### **Can I travel separate from my team, meet my team there or stay longer?**

No, all team members must travel from Louisville and return to Louisville together. If you live outside Louisville, you will be expected to travel at your own expense to and from Louisville for all meetings and for the trip.

### **What if I am unable to participate in the trip for any reason after being accepted?**

The Missions Ministry must receive cancellation as soon as possible. Trip members may be responsible for all trip costs. Monies paid towards mission trips are considered charitable contributions and are non-refundable.

By completing the online application, you acknowledge that the church will apply your contribution designated for this trip to other purposes in the event the trip is cancelled for any reason or you withdraw from the trip.

### ***For International trip consideration:***

#### **What if I do not have a passport?**

A passport is required for all trips out of the continental U.S. **Your passport must be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your trip return date and have available visa pages if your trip requires a visa.**

[Renew or apply for a new passport now!](#)

#### **Requirements:**

- birth certificate (not hospital record)
- 2 passport size photos
- government-issued photo identification document
- allow 6-8 weeks for your passport to arrive
- cost can be \$135-\$200

#### **What immunizations are required?**

Passport and immunization costs are not included in the trip cost and are the responsibility of the team member. No funds received through trip contributions can be used.

- Team members are expected to assume the responsibility and liability for their personal health decisions.
- The Missions Ministry supports the immunizations recommended by the Center for Disease Control. Check [www.cdc.gov/travel](http://www.cdc.gov/travel) to find out which immunizations are recommended for the country to which you are traveling.
- Consult with your physician about the recommendations and discuss which immunizations you need.
- Check with your health insurance to see if any of these immunizations are covered by your insurance. Plan to spend anywhere from \$10 - \$500.
- Contact an immunization provider, your physician, UL Vaccine and International Travel Center (562-2822), Passport Health (423-9799) or others. Plan 4 - 8 weeks before your trip to allow time for shots to take effect.
- **Required vaccinations for all international trips: Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis vaccine** Some countries also have required vaccinations.
- Recommended vaccinations for all trips: Hepatitis A & B, Measles/Mumps/Rubella (\*if born after 1956), and Traveler's Diarrhea RX.

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