

Mission Policy Manual:

To apply for a Covenant Bible Church mission trip, please read this document, sign it, and fill out a Mission Application.

Team Member Selection Process:

Each mission trip has its own individual purpose and unique requirements. Some mission trips provide us the opportunity to send as many qualified workers as are available. However, we are sometimes limited to the number of workers who can attend particular trips due to the requirements of the missionary agencies we are assisting.

All decisions will be guided and led by the Holy Spirit!

In the event we are limited in the number of workers that can be sent on an individual trip, these protocols will be followed:

- **Mission trip applications will be accepted for a designated period of time. The deadline will be determined by the Mission Oversight Committee.** Once applications have been received, all applications (including pastors, MOC and elders) will be reviewed and prayed over.
- **Covenant Bible Church mission team leader, pastoral staff, Mission Oversight Committee and elders will have priority consideration for filling positions on mission trips to foreign countries.**
 - Since our trips are given direction and covering by Covenant Bible Church (CBC); the CBC mission team leader, pastoral staff, Mission Oversight Committee, and elders will have the first opportunity to fill the number of vacant spots allowed on a particular trip. Pastors and elders are often called to help lead mission trips and to further execute our church's overall plan and commitment to missions.
- **Sister churches that co-sponsor the work in other countries will be allotted a certain number of positions on the team.** If the allotted positions are not filled by members of the sister churches at the end of a designated period of time, the positions will be available to members of Covenant Bible Church.
- **CBC members who are first-time mission trip applicants will fill the next available positions for the trip.**
 - It is the desire of the CBC Missions Oversight Committee to continue to introduce new people to the joys and opportunities of service to the Lord through mission activities. As much as we would love to have our skilled and experienced teams return year after year, we believe it is very important to give an opportunity to as

many people as possible to share in our mission experiences. With this in mind, beyond our CBC mission team leader, pastoral staff, elders, and sister churches participating in the trip; the first slots will be filled by first-time mission trip applicants from CBC. Again, all applicants are subject to prayer and consideration of the Mission Oversight Committee and the elders.

- **Any remaining positions for the mission trip will be offered first, to members, of Covenant Bible Church for a designated period.** Dates will be determined by the Mission Oversight Committee. If any additional slots remain available at the end of this period, the Mission Oversight Committee will gladly review applications from those who attend other churches.
- **Final decisions regarding an applicant's acceptance for a mission trip will be made by the Covenant Bible Church elders and the Mission Oversight Committee.** These decisions are final.
- **The Covenant Bible Church elders and the Mission Oversight Committee reserve the authority to override these established protocols in special circumstances.**
 - For example: If the mission agency we are assisting requests that we send skilled workers in a particular area of service (construction, evangelistic outreach, medical, etc.); the CBC elders and Mission Oversight Committee, in an effort to fulfill the greatest need on the mission field, will provide our most skilled and experienced workers to meet their particular immediate needs and specific requests.

Qualifications:

- You must be a born again Christian.
- Regularly attend a church.
- Have a heart to please the Father
- Be in good health.
- Must be able to attend team meetings.
 - Active in serving the Lord.
 - Be able to get along well with others.
 - If you are under the age of 18, you will be required to be accompanied by a parent or a guardian.

Commitment:

- If you are not able to commit to the team meeting schedule or to meeting the deadlines, you may want to reconsider committing to the trip.
- If selected for the team you must attend the majority of the meetings. If you are unable to attend, you must notify the leadership team. If you miss too many meetings, you may lose your spot on the team. If you are in college away from home, or are not able to make the meetings due to work, and you are selected for the team; it is your responsibility to obtain the information from the meetings.
- All deadlines must be met. If they are not met, you may lose your spot on the team.
- Be in constant prayer for the team and the trip.
- Be prepared to assist in the preparation of the trip. Example: Packing, or other things that may need to be accomplished.
- Be spiritually ready!
- Commit to walk uprightly before the Lord.

Financial:

- **You may not solicit members of Covenant Bible Church to support you financially.**
- You are responsible for paying for the entire amount of the trip. Fund raisers may be available but you should not depend on the fundraisers to pay for your trip. Personal fundraisers are encouraged. Example: letters, bake sale etc....
- All funds collected from fundraisers will be distributed only to those who participated in that event.
- You must meet all financial deadlines set by the Mission Oversight Committee.
- Any personal money that was given prior to December 31 of the said year will not be refunded after January 1 the following year. No money donated by other individuals will be reimbursed to you in cash. However, you may hold that money as a credit for the next trip.
- If for some reason you are not able to go on the trip, you will not be reimbursed money that has already been spent. Example: supplies, hotel reservations etc. Excluding medical emergencies for you, an immediate family member, or death in the family. We will work with the team member in this situation to get as much of the money returned to them as possible. All airline refunds will be subject to the policies of that airline and/or travel agency. The \$100 camp deposit will not be refunded for any reason.
- CBC will not be responsible for any team member's lost money, stolen money, damaged luggage, lost luggage, or loss of any other personal property.

Code of Conduct:

- Respect each member of the team.
- No vulgar language, profanity, or rude behavior.
- Have a positive attitude regardless of the task at hand or the environment/conditions in which we are serving. The missionaries that are there are giving us the best of what they have. We should maintain a grateful attitude and heart.
- You must be flexible and understand that when in a third world country things do not always go as planned. You have to be ready for anything.
- No alcohol or drug use will be tolerated.
- No behavior that does not glorify the Father.

Dress Code:

When in other countries, one could easily offend another by wearing the wrong thing. I know that this may seem strange for such poor nations, but the young people really look to North Americans for their style and they try to copy people. Some are not ideal for their culture. Adults typically judge others by style and determine who they can trust and respect by what they wear. This is a sensitive subject for some people; but for the short time that you will be visiting other countries, we would ask that you consider our requests and respect the culture. A good rule of thumb would be if you have a question about it, do not pack it. Thank You.

Women: Modest dress: Clothing must fit appropriately; no tight fitting clothing, bra straps should be covered at all times, no skin should be showing due to low rise pants or half shirts, and cleavage should never show. Shorts are to be knee length (walking shorts, basketball shorts etc.). Tank tops are acceptable as long as the straps are at least 3 fingers wide. Absolutely no spaghetti straps. T-shirts are fine but please make sure that the prints on them are acceptable. US military shirts: no patriotic emblems, vulgar language, skulls, anything that can be misinterpreted in another country. Church clothing: Be respectful of the culture and wear dresses/skirts that come to the knees or below. Shoulders should be covered.

Men: Modest dress: Shorts are to be knee length. T-shirts are fine but please make sure that the prints on them are acceptable. Prints to stay away from in a foreign country: US military shirts, Patriotic shirts, vulgar language, skulls, anything that can be misinterpreted in another country. Church: long dress pants such as khaki pants, collared shirts (polo's are acceptable) and a nice pair of shoes.

Trip Preparedness:

Passport:

All members will need to obtain a passport. You will not be permitted to enter another country without one. Check with your post office for a passport application, you can also visit

<http://travel.state.gov/passport> for more details. You will need to have a certified copy of your birth certificate, social security card, and another form of ID. Please allow 4 to 8 weeks for this process. You will need to provide a copy of your passport to the Mission Team Coordinator.

Immunizations:

Immunizations are highly recommended. You can visit the CDC's website <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations> . Please contact your doctor or health department in Catawba or Cleveland County to get a list of immunizations/medications that you will need for this trip.

It is strongly recommended that you take malaria medication on trips to foreign countries.

Medical Evacuation Insurance:

CBC requires that you purchase Emergency Medical Evacuation insurance. You can obtain this through the website www.insuremytrip.com. You should have at least \$100,000 in coverage. Once you obtain confirmation, please make a copy and give to the Mission Team Coordinator.

Spiritual Preparation:

As a member of this team, I agree to pray for the team, trip, and children in the country we are visiting. I will be in the Word and I agree to put on the armor of God!

Ephesians 6

11Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

I have read and understand the rules and procedures in this document. I am signing this paper in agreement to all of the above. As brothers and sisters in Christ we will hold each other accountable for the items in this agreement.

Your signature: _____ Date: _____

Mission Director's signature: _____ Date: _____

****This document is to be returned with a completed application.