

Mission Project Manual

2024

Print for each team member

I. MISSIONS PROJECT APPLICATIONS

TEAM MEMBER APPLICATION

Prayer is the most vital aspect of deciding to go on mission with God. Please do not submit an application before much prayer and counsel from parents, church leaders, and wise friends. A mission trip is not a vacation – it is an opportunity to obey the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19-20) and participate in what God is doing in the world locally, nationally, and internationally (Acts 1:8).

After reading this manual, the *Mission Project Team Member Application* (provided separately) must be completed, notarized, and submitted to the Mission Project Team Leader for review and approval prior to the trip. The Team Leader will interview prospective team members and assist with passport application, trip preparation, etc. Applications will be placed on file with the Missions Staff. The Team Leader will make a copy and keep in custody during the mission trip. An application must be submitted for each mission project/trip. (Exceptions must be approved by the Missions Pastor.)

The Team Leader will establish deadlines for completed applications (and deposits, payments, etc.) for the mission project.

PASSPORT APPLICATION

If a passport is necessary for your mission project, it can be obtained at the local Court House. It may take up to 10 weeks to receive your passport, so it is critical that you submit your passport application as soon as possible. The applicant must appear before a local, designated passport acceptor (usually a postmaster or clerk of the court) for the signing and witnessing of the application.

Please see the passport application for other requirements. After receiving your passport from the US Passport Office, give a color copy of it to your Mission Team Leader, then place passport in a secure location.

II. MISSION PROJECT SUPPORT

BUILD A SUPPORT TEAM

Each individual team member will be responsible for developing his or her own support team. Your support team should consist of:

*Prayer Supporters *Encouragers

The objective is to develop a spiritual support team - not just to raise funds. The most important need for the team member is for people to pray for him or her, before and during the project.

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THE SUPPORT TEAM

The idea of the support team is to involve as many people in the mission experience as possible.

This method:

- is a way others can share in the blessings of the mission (Phil. 4:17)
- is a Biblical approach (II Cor. 8:4)
- is a means by which others go “On Mission” through giving

You should seek people that you want on your team, not those who you think will give money. Remember, if the prayer support is in place, everything else will fall into place.

III. MISSION PROJECT POLICIES

POLICIES FOR TEAM BEHAVIOR AND ATTITUDE

Team members participating on Lindsay Lane Baptist Church sponsored short-term trips are reminded that they are ambassadors of Jesus Christ (II Cor. 5:20). As teams go overseas they not only represent Him, but Lindsay Lane Baptist Church and the United States. This is a tremendous responsibility. For this reason, the Missions Staff of Lindsay Lane Baptist Church asks that each team member seek to be above reproach in his/her actions and attitudes.

- Team leaders must complete training by the Missions Pastor prior to trip, preferably 6 months in advance.
 - Team members must submit to the Team Leader’s authority.
 - Team leader should enlist an assistant team leader to help and to mentor for the future.
 - Due to the political instability and anti-American sentiment in various countries around the world, Lindsay Lane Baptist Church asks that team members refrain from expressing political opinions while overseas. (i.e. USA t-shirts, etc.)
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- Abstain from the consumption of alcoholic beverages or any use of tobacco or illegal drugs while on the trip.
 - Team members must refrain from any romantic or sensually affectionate behavior toward anyone on the team, mission agency, host country occupants, etc. The Team Leader will make judgment decisions regarding the degree of affection that is appropriate between married or engaged couples.
 - The team member must adhere to the behavioral guidelines for each specific team set by the team leadership or missionary agency with a mind toward the culture to which the team is going. This will require a servant attitude toward all nationals and team members, as well as the willingness to learn from the host culture (I Cor. 9:19-23a)
 - After consultation with the Missions Pastor, the Team Leader reserves the right to ask a problem team member to return home if that team member’s behavior is destructive to the team, the ministry, or the host community. **Any additional cost incurred as a result of this action will be at the team member’s expense.**
 - All team members must have a current background check, no greater than three (3) years, as deter-

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mined by the Missions Staff.

- Travel Insurance (i.e. accident, medical emergency, repatriation, etc.) is required for international trips. The Missions Staff can assist the team in obtaining reasonably priced travel insurance. Trip cancellation insurance is optional, but strongly suggested.
- Team members must sign the completed trip application, with an understanding that there is a complete release of medical or personal liabilities for Lindsay Lane Baptist Church.
- Team members are responsible for obtaining all shots, vaccinations, etc. necessary for travel to international destinations. The Team Leader can assist in obtaining medical advice from the Center for Disease Control, or other reliable sources.
- Team members who are minors (under 18) must be accompanied by at least one parent or legal guardian.
- Legal changes to international travel for minors (under 18) may require the ORIGINAL birth certificate of the minor to be in the possession of the parent/guardian at all times. Additionally, a notarized parental/guardian permission document may be required. (The signed/notarized *LLBC Mission Trip Application* will satisfy this requirement).

IV. MISSION PROJECT FOLLOW-UP LETTERS

Lindsay Lane Baptist Church mission leadership requests you write follow-up letters to your supporters and others such as pastors, teachers, etc. thanking them for their support and telling them of what God did during your mission trip. Photos or a video/slideshow of your mission trip are great to include with these thank you letters as well.

ALL GLORY TO GOD!