

Rainier View Christian Church
Short-Term Mission Guidelines and Procedures

Anyone participating in an RVCC short-term mission trip is expected to meet the following criteria.

- Be actively serving in ministry at Rainier View Christian Church
- Demonstrate the ability to express the basic Gospel message
- Be willing to learn and adapt to the culture
- Be willing and able to participate in **ALL** team meetings and training sessions
- Agree to financial policies and fund raising requirements
- Be capable of meeting the physical requirements of the trip for which they are applying
- Be willing to adhere to the rules in the Team Covenant
- Be willing to complete all other required preparation (i.e. passport, immunizations, etc.)
- You must be 16 years of age by the date of the trip departure

Short-term Missions Guidelines and Procedures

- You must submit a completed application, AND a non-refundable \$100 contribution before your application will be processed. In the event the trip is cancelled for any reason, the \$100 will be transferred to the church's short-term mission fund. Applications need to be completed for every trip to assure all of the information is updated.
- Your application will be reviewed and a personal interview may be required if you have not participated in a Rainier View Christian Church short-term missions trip previously. You will be notified if you are approved as a team member no later than two weeks after the application deadline.
- Youth between the ages of 12-15 (by the date of departure) will be eligible to apply if they are accompanied by at least one parent.
- After being accepted as team member, you will be required to complete paperwork provided in the Youth or Adult Participant packet (medical history, release form, minor medical authorization form, and provide a copy of your passport. These forms must be completed for every trip to assure all of the information is current.
- Background checks are required for some trips.
- The cost of the trip is determined by the cost of transportation, food, lodging, and ministry expenses. RVCC would like to be able to support short-term mission trips by providing some or all of approved ministry expenses if funds are available. Travel insurance is required for all short-term mission trips.
- We encourage you to obtain support from friends and family, and allow others to join with you. You are encouraged to raise at least 15% of the cost of the trip from support letters and fund raising efforts.
- Once you have been accepted, you will be provided with information on ways to raise financial support. We ask you not begin to raise funds until you are notified of acceptance to the team and informed of proper fund-raising procedures. Fund raising is an integral part of your short-term mission experience. Don't let money keep you from applying for a short-term trip. God could be waiting for an opportunity to show you how big He is! Fund-raising guidelines and materials will be provided at trip meetings.
- Team members will be given information regarding passports and vaccination recommendations from the Department of Health. **Passport and vaccination costs are not included in the trip costs and are the responsibility of the team member. Team members assume the responsibility and liability for their personal health decisions.**
- If you are unable to participate in your trip for any reason, the Team Leader or Short-term Missions Coordinator must receive cancellation notice as soon as possible. **You may be responsible for all trip costs. Monies put**

towards mission trips are contributions and cannot be refunded. By completing this application you acknowledge that the church has full authority to 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.

- **Passport:** Required for all trips out of the continental U.S. Apply now for your passport! To obtain a passport, you will need a certified birth certificate (not the hospital record), two passport photos, and a driver's license. All of this can cost \$100-\$175, depending on when you apply. You should allow 15-20 weeks for your passport to arrive. Also, remember that it sometimes takes state agencies several weeks to provide a certified record of your birth if you don't currently have one. Further passport services and information are available at the following website: http://travel.state.gov/passport_services.html.
- **Immunizations:** Rainier View Christian Church supports the immunizations recommended by the Center for Disease Control. Call your physician or the International Travel Clinic to determine costs and which ones are needed. Vaccinations are not included in the price of the trip. Required vaccinations for all trips: Tetanus/Diphtheria. Recommended vaccinations for all trips: Hepatitis A & B, Measles/Mumps/Rubella (*if born after 1956), and Traveler's Diarrhea RX.