



FIRST TIME STUDENT APPLICANT APPLICATION FOR SHORT-TERM MISSION TRIP

We are so excited you are interested in serving with us! We work hard to make each trip the best experience we can manage for our team, our church, our ministry partners, and the Kingdom. These trips represent a significant investment of time, money and energy: we want them to be as beneficial and impactful as we can manage for everyone involved. To accomplish this, we must select and send people who will make up the best possible team to represent GFCC and ultimately Christ as they serve with our ministry partners. So, we thoroughly screen every applicant.

As part of the screening process, you must thoughtfully and thoroughly fill out this entire application. Submitting this application does not constitute your acceptance on a team, but it will help us to ask the right questions during the interview process and provide us with vital details should you be chosen to join the team.

Please be advised that in addition to the reference you include in this application, we may speak with your friends, ministry leaders and/or other people in the church to better ascertain if you are a good fit for this trip.

We appreciate your desire to serve this ministry with us and look forward to seeing you in an interview.

In Christ,

The FCC Missions Team

I understand and accept the terms of this application.

Applicant Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____
(please print)

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____
(please print)

Trip Destination: _____ Date of Trip: _____

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Preferred Name: _____
Full Name EXACTLY as it appears on your passport

Address: _____

Preferred Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Best Time to Call: _____ Email: _____

Birthdate: _____ Gender: M F

Age requirements for trips:

1. Mexico – Ninos de Mexico: 14 with a parent or 18 alone
2. Mexico – Casas por Christo: 14 with a parent or 18 alone
3. Poland – Polish Christian Ministries: 16 with a parent or 18 alone
4. Bolivia – Operation Restoration: 16 with a parent or 18 alone
5. Oklahoma – Cookson Hills: 14 with a parent or 18 alone

Passport #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Grade: _____ Name of School: _____

I am actively involved at:

☐ Greenville First Christian Church

☐ Other Church: _____

Youth Pastor/Leader Name: _____

Note: If you are not actively involved at GFCC, you must submit (along with this application) a letter of recommendation from your youth pastor/leader.

PARENTAL COMMUNICATION

Do you give GFCC permission to contact your parent/guardian regarding this trip? Yes No

Parent/Guardian Email: _____ Parent/Guardian Phone: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Person to contact in the event of an emergency:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Email: _____

PERSONAL REFERENCE

Person who can speak to your character and personality:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Years Known: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Briefly share your family background:

Who in your life is supportive of your desire to participate in this trip? Is there anyone in your life who is not supportive? Explain why you think so for each?

Please describe your relationship with God as a follower of Jesus:

If someone asked you, "Tell me about your Jesus and how can I have a relationship with God through following Jesus?" What would you tell them?

PERSONAL HEALTH STATUS

Participating in short-term ministry trips can be strenuous and stressful. Having this information on file will make it easier for the appropriate personnel to assist you if necessary. This information will be kept confidential.

1. Please describe any health issues you have (asthma, diabetes, heart condition, etc.)

2. Please describe any physical restrictions you have that may affect your participation.

3. Do you now, or have you in the past, experienced anxiety, depression, or other emotional/mental health concerns? Yes No

4. Please list any medications you are taking on a regular basis:

5. Please list any dietary restrictions: _____

6. Please list known allergies: _____

7. Blood type: _____

I certify that all the statements and information provided herein are true and correct.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSIONS OF OUR MINISTRY

Going on a GFCC short-term mission trip is not the same as taking a vacation to an exotic place. Our mission trips are not 'getaways' from responsibility nor are they 'volunteer vacations' to feel self-satisfied by 'doing good'. We go as ambassadors of Jesus Christ to work among people that we do hope to see again, if only in eternity. And, as true ambassadors, the burden is upon us to bridge the cultural differences necessary to reach them for him.

GFCC short-term mission trips want to place emphasis on ministry within our teams. We go not only to minister to others, but also to get outside of our own comfort zones. We go to place ourselves in a position to hear God speak to us in ways we don't always hear at home. This requires going beyond being nice and getting along. This requires true Christian community which develops true spiritual unity within our team. We agree to resolve conflict in a Christ-honoring way. We also agree to facilitate mutual growth by sharing our own insights and experiences during times set aside for spiritual reflection, prayer and praise to God. By serving others together in community we will experience the blessing of God.

EXPECTATIONS FOR EXEMPLARY PERSONAL CONDUCT

We will always adhere to the specific cultural expectations and guidelines provided for us by our on-site ministry partners. In other words, "when in Rome..." This pertains to things like dress, food, drink, jewelry, gift giving, picture taking, etc. We will always defer to our onsite ministry partners with regards to what we should or should not do.

While visiting, you will want to wear comfortable, modest clothing.

In adapting to the contextual expectations of those we seek to serve, there are some practical restrictions we all agree to follow together for the duration of each project. No alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs are to be used at all. In addition, there should be no hint of sexual immorality.

All participants in GFCC short-term mission projects are expected to adhere to these standards of conduct. Anyone who cannot accept these for the duration of a project should not apply for it. The trip leader is obligated by GFCC policy to dismiss anyone who betrays the trust of the group by violating these standards, and his/her decision in the matter will be final.

OUR BIBLICAL MODEL FOR MINISTRY

Our model for ministry is Jesus Christ. Having come as one of us, we know He understands us and knows the solutions to our problems and concerns. In the same way, we who go to other cultures to share the Gospel must do so with humility and sensitivity to the cultural context of their needs.

All our actions and relationships should be modeled upon those of our Lord's life and ministry. By going to serve and not to be served (Mark 10:45), GFCC teams truly discover what Jesus meant when He said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35)

Our behavior has a much more profound impact upon people than what we tell them. Therefore, it is critical that we model behavior that is truly Christ-like, both publicly and privately. In coming alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ in under-resourced places, we need to be sensitive to their worldview and willingly lay aside everything that might hinder our ministry there. We must bear the responsibility of bridging the cultural differences, and we want to be perceived as ambassadors, not "tourists" or "vacationers."

I understand and agree to abide by the above expectations and model for behavior.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

WAIVER OF RESPONSIBILITY/ASSUMPTION OF RISK/MEDICAL RELEASE

I, _____, in consideration of the benefits derived from being accepted for voluntary service on a Greenville First Christian Church short-term mission trip, and fully understanding that the risks associated with such service may include but are not limited to, injury or death by accident, disease, terrorist attacks, adverse weather conditions and in adequate medical care, and/or damage to, or loss of, personal property, hereby volunteer my services despite such hazards. I willingly assume these risks and I, for myself, and on behalf of my estate, heirs, executors, and administrators do hereby fully release and discharge Greenville First Christian Church, it's leaders and officers, sponsoring organizations, and international organizations from any and all liabilities, claims, obligations, damages, and causes of action whatsoever arising or growing out of my traveling and participation in the programs of Greenville First Christian Church, on the _____ trip.

Furthermore, any of the above-mentioned have my permission to obtain medical treatment, hospitalization and/or emergency services if the need should arise. I assume all responsibility for any resulting medical bills for myself. Should it be necessary for me to return home due to medical reasons or disciplinary action, I will assume any and all costs.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return the completed application form to the church office or mail to:

**Greenville First Christian Church
1100 Killarney Drive
Greenville, IL 62246**

Remember to include:

- Deposit (\$100)**
- Copy of your passport**

