

Life Foursquare Church

- SHORT TERM MISSIONS TRIP APPLICATION PACKET -

Thank you for your interest in a LFC (Life Foursquare Church) short term mission trip! In this packet you will find:

- ☐ LFC Mission, Vision, Values, and Beliefs
- ☐ Team Policies and Guidelines
- ☐ Team Member Application (use additional paper if needed for any questions)
- ☐ Financial Policy & Procedures
- ☐ Financial Understanding
- ☐ Team Behavior and Conduct
- ☐ Medical Information Form
- ☐ Emergency Release Form
- ☐ Short Term Release of Liability Form
- ☐ Reference Form
- ☐ Background Check Form (to be filled out by everyone 18 years or older)

The forms can be filled out electronically or by hand. Please print and provide your signature in the areas noted.

Please return your completed and signed application and forms with your \$50 non refundable deposit. This deposit will go towards the applicant's trip; if applicant decides not to go on the trip, the money will be put into the missions trip fund.

-LFC VISION, MISSION, VALUES, & BELIEFS-

Purpose of Missions:

To take the whole gospel to the whole world, until all have heard.

The Foursquare family may have started in the U.S., but our family has grown far beyond the U.S. border.

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.” – Mark 16:15

Vision:

To see every person from every nation become a fully devoted follower of Christ.

Mission:

To evangelize, disciple, and plant churches around the world.

Core Values:

- **Compassion.** Communicating and demonstrating the love of Christ to those who are lost, hurting and without hope.
- **Family.** Creating committed relationships of shared values, beliefs, heritage and mission.
- **Partnership.** Serving together with nations, churches and missionaries to take the gospel around the world.
- **Reproducibility.** Planting and cultivating healthy and reproducing church movements around the world.

Core Beliefs:

- We believe that God is calling His people to join Him in a passion for seeing His Name proclaimed amongst every tribe, tongue, and nation of the earth.
- We believe that the Gospel itself is the true source of motivation and power in giving ourselves for the cause of global missions.
- We believe that in this day, God is forging ministry from everywhere to everywhere, calling us to humble partnership, both serving and being served, teaching and learning from others.
- We believe that God cares about all needs, including spiritual, physical, social, and psychological, with an emphasis on seeing souls regenerated to eternal life.
- We believe that every child of God is included in the Lord's Great Commission to go or send into all the world and proclaim the Gospel in word and deed.
- We believe that in our own strength we are powerless to affect God's kingdom and thus are to be prayerfully dependent on the power and love of a God who is eager to answer and empower.
- We believe that God is calling us to step out of our comfort zones and trust Him to do more than we can ask or think.
- We believe that God is a relational God who knows us intimately and thus calls us, not to an ambiguous cause, but to minister as individuals and to individuals.

-TEAM POLICIES AND GUIDELINES-

If you are interested in participating in a short-term missions trip with LFC, please read the following:

- 1) Every applicant applying for a short-term mission trip must fill out an application and complete each individual section.
- 2) Application or trip questions can be sent to: office@visitlife.org
- 3) Acceptance to go on a trip is not guaranteed. Acceptance to a trip is dependent on multiple factors including trip capacity, skill sets, ministry gifts and experience, etc. Priority will be given to church members. As part of the application process, short-term trip leaders may choose to hold informational interviews with the candidates applying. Should you not be selected for a trip, your deposit will be refunded.
- 4) All adults (age 18 and above) must submit the attached background check form. Background check results will not automatically disqualify an applicant to a trip team. Proof of background check is all that will be needed if a background check has been completed in the last two years.
- 5) Upon approval of the application, the short-term trip leader will provide further information about the next preparation steps.
NOTE: DO NOT solicit any funds for support and/or make any commitments on behalf of LFC without prior approval.
- 6) Applicants must be at least 10 years of age unless otherwise noted for a specific trip. All applicants 17 years and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
- 7) Team members are expected to attend team training meetings.
- 8) Short-term mission trips can be rewarding and life-changing; however, 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.
- 9) If you have physical limitations, please apply for a trip which you are physically able to participate. Some trips may be prohibitive for certain physical conditions. Please discuss with the team leader if you have concerns.
- 10) Team members assume responsibility for their personal belongings on the trip. LFC will not reimburse team members for items that are lost, stolen, or confiscated during the trip.
- 11) Team members are expected to dress modestly and adhere to the dress code that is specific for that trip and country.
- 12) Applications will be valid for 1 year.

-TEAM MEMBER APPLICATION-

Application Due Date:

Mission Location:

Trip Dates:

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Please type or print **FULL LEGAL NAME** (as it appears on your passport) legibly in black ink.

Name: _____
(last) (first) (middle)

Preferred name: _____ Gender: _____

Date of birth: _____ Age: _____

Street Address: _____

Phone # _____

Email: _____

PASSPORT INFORMATION

Country: _____ Issue date: _____

Place of issue: _____ Expiration date: _____

Passport Number: _____

RELATIONSHIP TO LIFE FOURSQUARE CHURCH

Check one and complete the requested information

☐ Member Since: _____ (mo/year)

☐ Regular attender and active in church since: _____ (mo/year)

☐ Occasional attender

☐ Involved in a church other than LFC. Specify church: _____

Are you currently attending a Life group? ☐ YES ☐ NO Leader's name: _____

List LFC ministries you have been involved with past and present. Please provide dates & ministry/leader.

List LFC pastors, elders, or small group leaders who could serve as references.

PERSONAL BACKGROUND

Describe how you came to trust Jesus Christ as your Savior.

Describe your current practice of devotions (Bible study & prayer).

How have you grown spiritually in the past year?

Are you involved in any ministries outside of LFC? Please describe.

Describe how you would explain the gospel to a non-believer.

MINISTRY EXPERIENCE & SPIRITUAL GIFTS

List any cross-cultural and short-term experience. Indicate length of ministry, ministry name, short description, and team leader we can communicate with. (Use additional paper if needed)

What gifts, talents, abilities, and professional skills do you have that might contribute to your ministry on a short-term mission trip?

If you have taken spiritual gifts assessment, what are your top spiritual gifts?

Do you speak a language other than English? If so, please list along with fluency (i.e. a little, conversational, fluent).

Briefly explain what you hope to see the Lord do in and through you on this mission trip.

How do you think your involvement will strengthen the team?

What do you do when you have conflict with someone? How do you handle confrontation?

What are the realistic roadblocks that might keep you from going on a mission trip?

A missions trip requires a major time commitment. In addition to the trip itself, the team meets for training. Are you willing to commit to the necessary time requirements for this trip? What possible time conflicts might you have during the preparation and training period?

☐ YES ☐ NO Conflicts:

-FINANCIAL POLICY AND PROCEDURES-

Payment Options:

In order to comply with the IRS, all checks should be made payable to **Life Foursquare Church**. All checks must include a separate note with **participant's name** and **trip location**. Do NOT put this info in the memo line.

Trip Costs:

Each team budget will contain a number of major expense categories. Examples may include airfare, housing costs, food and drink, ministry materials, gifts for hosts, and much more.

Every effort is made to minimize costs without jeopardizing the quality, effectiveness, or safety of the ministry.

Separate Itineraries:

Separate itineraries arranged by the individual short term participants **are not allowed**. Travel arrangements go much smoother if everyone has the same itinerary. Separate itineraries make it more complicated for planning and arrangement of group discounts/costs. Separate itineraries also disrupt team bonding and unity. Exceptions MAY be allowed if a team member is staying for extended ministry reasons, but this is completely at the discretion of the LFC missions board and must be approved.

Deposit Information:

A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required with this application. Make check payable to **Life Foursquare Church**. This deposit will go be credited to the total cost of applicant's trip.

Team Member Contribution:

Each short term team participant is responsible for 100% of their trip cost. Fundraising is encouraged, and should not be promoted within the church.

Payment Schedule:

- 90 days: 50% of balance due (or at time of airline ticket purchase)
- 30 days: Full payment due
- Cancellations or failure to pay result in forfeiture.

Team Leaders will discuss the payment schedule for your trip in further detail at the first team meeting.

-FINANCIAL UNDERSTANDING-

- I understand that I am responsible for raising 100% of the funds required for the trip.
- The money I raise covers travel costs, food, lodging, entrance/exit taxes, ground transportation, and other ministry expenses associate with the trip.
- I am responsible for passport fees, souvenirs, immunizations, prayer letters, personal meals separate from the team, and some tourist type events.
- LFC will not be responsible for extra trip expenses (i.e. cancellations, lost items).
- Financial donations made to LFC for this mission trip are not mine— they belong to God and have been given to LFC in order to accomplish the mission and work of the church.
- If, for some reason, I do not ultimately participate on the mission trip to which I have been accepted, I am responsible for and will reimburse LFC for any fees incurred as a result of my cancellation. (i.e. purchased airline tickets).
- I understand that the monies donated to my trip cannot be refunded to me or to the donors due to the non-profit status of LFC. All materials, including airline and other travel tickets, that have been purchased with donated funds cannot be transferred outside of the trip.
- I understand if I do not meet the funding deadlines, I may not be allowed to go on the missions trip. Any money raised will not be refunded, but will be applied to the current trip or other mission's ministries.
- If I raise an amount of money that exceeds my needs, remaining money will be dispersed to other team members in need or used by LFC for other financial needs associated with this mission or future ministry trips.
- I will agree to return home at my own expense if the team leadership determines that my behavior is /has been inappropriate and none of the money raised will be refunded to me or any donors.

I have read and agree to the above policies, rules, and terms.

Participant's Name (please print)_____

Signature of Participant_____

If under 18, name of Legal guardian (print)_____

Signature of Legal Guardian_____

Date_____

-TEAM BEHAVIOR AND CONDUCT-

In submitting this application:

- I have read and agree to the trip policies and procedures.
- I wholeheartedly submit to the team leadership and will follow their direction and instructions.
- I will attend all training sessions and complete all training requirements to the best of my ability.
- I am confirming that I have the time and energy to devote to the pre, mid, and post-trip responsibilities.
- I am willing to work under the direction of missionaries and national pastors to accept and to perform any and all assignments cheerfully and with a God-honoring attitude.
- I will be flexible in my deportment and will adjust my demeanor, posture, and manner as needed.
- I will agree to return home at my own expense if the team leader determines that my behavior is/has been inappropriate.
- I will not consume alcoholic beverages or use any form of tobacco or illegal drugs while on the trip.
- I will not gamble or view any pornographic material while on the trip.
- I will not engage in romantic actions or relationships (outside of marriage) while on the trip.
- I will agree to the forfeiture of future trips with LFC if my behavior or actions has not reflected the expectations outlined above.

Participant's Name (please print)_____

Signature of Participant_____

If under 18, name of Legal guardian (print)_____

Signature of Legal Guardian_____

Date_____

-MEDICAL INFORMATION-

Name:

Insurance Information:

Insurance Company:

Policy Holder:

Policy # :

Group # :

Insurance Co Phone Number:

Physician Information:

Primary Care Physician:

Physician Phone number:

Physician Address:

Emergency Contact Information:

Please provide contact information of two individuals not traveling with your team who may be contacted in the event of an emergency.

Name:

Relationship:

Address:

Phone:

Name:

Relationship:

Address:

Phone:

Is your tetanus shot current? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Date of last tetanus shot:

List any allergies (foods, medications, bees, etc.) AND reactions to these allergies:

List any special dietary needs / requirements:

Please list any medications you are currently taking:

Do you have any health problems that might hinder you during this missions trip? (back or chest pain, daily mandatory medical needs, physical or mental disability, etc.)

-EMERGENCY MEDICAL RELEASE FORM-

Participant's Name:

Life Foursquare Church Short-Term Mission Teams and their appointed team leaders have my permission to authorize any medical treatment deemed necessary for _____ by the aforementioned and the attending physician, including administration of medication, anesthesia, emergency surgery, or hospitalization. I agree to assume complete financial responsibility for all medical bills incurred.

I agree to assume total financial responsibility to travel home immediately if it is necessary for medical or any other emergency reasons.

Signed: _____

Parent's Signature (if under 18 years of age): _____

And dated this _____ day of _____, 20____.

-SHORT-TERM RELEASE OF LIABILITY-

In signing this form, I, _____, agree not to hold Life Foursquare Church, its officers, employees, or other agents liable for any injury, loss, damage, or accident that I might sustain while on a short-term missions event/effort. I realize and acknowledge that my participation on a missions trip to a foreign country includes risk and possible dangers. I am well aware that my travel to such a foreign country exposes me to such risks as accidents, disease, war, political unrest, injury from construction projects, and other calamities.

I hereby assume any such risks that might result from my participation in any such missions project, and I unconditionally agree to hold Life Foursquare Church, its officers, employees, or other agents harmless for any liability concerning my personal health and wellbeing, or any liability for my personal property that might be lost, damaged, or stolen while on a short-term missions trip.

I hereby expressly forever release and discharge Redeemer Bible Church, its officers, employees, or agents from all such claims, demands, injuries, damages, or causes of action arising from any conduct on the part of Life Foursquare Church, its officers, agents, or employees.

Printed Name: _____

Signed: _____

Parent's signature (if under 18) _____

And dated this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

-REFERENCE FORM-

Please give reference form to two individuals who know you well (no family members, please).

Please return to: Life Foursquare Church, Attn: Missions Committee, 2954 W. Ash Ave, Decatur, IL 62526

Name of Applicant:

Your relationship to the applicant:

It is important that you be as candid as possible in your responses. If you need more space, please use a separate piece of paper and write the applicant's name at the top of that sheet. If you would like to discuss an issue that might relate to a particular question, please contact the team leader. We are not looking for perfect people for our mission trips, but we do want to identify negative traits that may be a detriment to our team in a successful ministry situation. Answering any question negatively will not necessarily disqualify the applicant from the trip. It will show us the areas that may need working on in preparation for the trip. Please do not answer questions simply "yes" or "no", but give further explanation that you think might be helpful to us.

Do you believe the applicant is ready for this trip (spiritually, emotionally, socially)? Why?

Does the applicant respond positively to authority figures?

Does the applicant display spiritual fruit at home, work and school? What fruit do you see?

How does the applicant respond when he/she doesn't get his/her way?

Does the applicant display servant-like characteristics at home or in your relationship?

Does the applicant have personal devotions on a regular basis?

Your Name:

Phone:

Signature:

Date: