**2020 Mission Trip FAQ**

Q: How does Traders Point Christian Church decide where to take short-term mission trips?

A: All mission trips serve alongside our current partners and church plants.

Q: If I want to serve on a short-term mission team, how do I decide on a trip?

A: You can find detailed information about each of our short-term mission trips by clicking [here](http://www.tpcc.org/go). Specific trip details can be found by clicking on the FAQ located by each of the individual trips. You can also reach out to Taranza Brown at [tbrown@tpcc.org](mailto:tbrown@tpcc.org) to ask further questions.

Q: What are the age requirements?

A: Team members must be at least 8 years or older for most trips. However, there are a few trips that require you be older, check the specific trips for their age requirements.

Q: How do I apply for a trip?

A: The current online trip information and application can be found by clicking [here](http://www.tpcc.org/go). You must complete the online application, and then your application will be reviewed, and a personal interview may be required. You will be notified once your application has been approved.

Q: What happens after I apply?

A: Once your application has been approved, you must pay the non-refundable trip deposit within 10 days. Once your deposit has been received you will be sent a “welcome to the team” letter and your spot will be confirmed.

Q: What are the trip requirements?

A: Every team member over the age of 18 must have a current [criminal background check](http://www.tpcc.org/bgcheck), and everyone on the team must sign and adhere to the Team Covenant (this will be sent with the “welcome to the team” letter) at all times.

Q: How do I pay for the trip?

A: Trip participants are encouraged to invite friends and family to participate by helping to support financially and by praying for the mission trip. Raising support is an integral part of your short-term mission experience. God could be waiting for an opportunity to show you how big He is!

Trip participants may begin support raising after you are notified of your acceptance to the team. You will receive detailed fundraising information in your “welcome to the team” letter along with the fundraising deadlines.

If full support is not raised, any balance is the team member’s responsibility.

Q: What does the trip cost include?

A: The trip cost includes airfare to the destination; lodging; food and transportation while on site; emergency medical trip insurance and international visas. The trip cost does NOT include required or recommended immunizations or medications for travel, passport application or renewal fees, souvenirs, and airport food.

Q: Are there pre-trip meetings? Pre-trip preparation?

A: It is important that team members attend all meetings to fully prepare for the trip individually and as a team. Dates for the team meetings will be listed on your “Welcome to the Team” letter. Please be sure to mark these dates on your calendar as soon as you get your letter!

Q: Can I travel separate from my team?

A: No, all team members must travel from Indianapolis and return to Indianapolis together. If you live outside of Indianapolis, you will be expected to travel at your own expense to and from Indianapolis for all meetings and for the trip.

Q: What if I am unable to participate in the trip for any reason after being accepted?

A: You must submit in writing that you need to cancel as soon as possible. Trip members may be responsible for all trip costs. Monies paid towards mission trips are considered charitable contributions and are non-refundable.

By completing the online application, you acknowledge that the church will apply your contribution designated for this trip to a future trip or other purposes, in the event the trip is cancelled for any reason or you withdraw from the trip.

Q: What do I need to prepare (shots, passport, flight, etc.)

A: All flight arrangements are made by the TPCC Outreach Programming Director, Taranza Brown.

Please consult with your physician and/or the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website for up-to-date information on immunizations at <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel> . Please contact your physician for specific medical recommendations. Plan at least 4 – 8 weeks before your trip to allow time for shots to take effect.

Participants must have a current passport (one with an expiration date of later than six months after the return date of the trip you are participating in). If you have a passport, but it has an expiration date sooner than this date, the passport will have to be renewed before the trip.

To get information on how to get a passport go to <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/passports/information/fees.html>