

FIRST BAPTIST ATLANTA
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES for SHORT-TERM MISSION TEAMS

Purpose of Short-Term Missions

To assist members of First Baptist Church Atlanta in their efforts to:

- Touch the world with the Word of God motivated by a passion for God and a compassion for people.
- Lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Objective of Short-Term Missions

To support members of FBA in their efforts to be used by the Lord to:

- Bring people to a saving faith in Christ.
- Teach people the Word of God.
- Equip people for and involve people in service.
- Help people develop a sense of belonging through healthy personal relationships.
- To develop world Christians through Cross-Cultural exposure and Missionary lifestyle experience.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Short-term Missionary Selection Criteria

- All candidates must have a testimony of salvation and be able to clearly verbally express this conversion experience.
- All candidates must be FBA members for at least one year.
- All candidates must be at least 14 years of age unless otherwise approved.
- All candidates should be involved in other FBA ministries, such as Sunday School, Choir, Teaching, Decision Counseling, Local Missions, etc.
- All candidates must complete a short-term mission application.
- All candidates must interview with the team leader.
- All participants must be approved by the Short-Term Missions Pastor and the team leader.
- All participants must attend all team meetings and meet all requirements as set by the team leader.
- All participants can only participate on one mission trip per year.

Short-term Missionary Financial Support

- Candidates are expected to raise 100% of their financial support through support letters and meet the deadlines as established by the team leader. Candidates will be required to complete their funding prior to departure.
- Contributions must be made payable to First Baptist Atlanta and must be designated with the candidate's team name and the candidate's name to receive credit for the contribution. **PLEASE DO NOT RECORD CANDIDATE'S NAME OR CANDIDATE'S TEAM NAME ON THE CHECK ITSELF.** Include a separate notation with this information with the check.
- If contributions are being made through FBA, the candidate must allow at least one week to process out-going checks. A receipt must accompany any expenditure for which he/she expects to be reimbursed.
- If a candidate raises more than the required support or for any reason cannot participate on the short-term trip, it is the preference of the World Missions Ministry to reallocate his/her funds to his/her team

fund or the Faith Promise Fund. It is the candidate's responsibility to inform supporters of his/her inability to participate on a short-term trip.

- Candidates are required to notify potential supporters that any support exceeding the amount needed will be allocated to the short-term team's needs or the World Mission Fund.
- Contribution reports will be made available once a week through the team leader.
- The Short-term Subcommittee reserves the right to amend these policies and procedures, to approve or deny all financial support, and to abide by the policies and procedures of the World Missions Committee.

Short-term Missionary Field Behavior

- Candidates participating on FBA sponsored short-term trips are reminded that they are ambassadors of Jesus Christ. As candidates go overseas they not only represent Him, but the United States, FBA and/or the supporting mission agency. This is a tremendous responsibility. For this reason, the Short-term Subcommittee asks that each candidate seek to be above reproach in his/her actions and attitudes.
- Candidates must submit to the team leader's authority.
- Candidates must refrain from abusive language, drinking alcoholic beverages, taking illegal narcotics, smoking, etc.
- Due to the political instability and anti-American sentiment in various countries around the world, FBA asks that each candidate refrain from expressing his/her political opinions while overseas.
- If at any time while overseas a candidate's behavior constitutes a problem, the team leader has the authority to ask that candidate to return home. Any additional costs incurred as a result of this action will be at the candidate's expense.

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