



Short Term Missions Purpose & Requirements

FBC Lawton utilizes short term mission trips as a means for the body of believers to engage in missions for a brief period of time.

Purpose of Short-Term Mission Trips

- To lead people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ
- To grow disciples
- To build up the church and local missionaries/workers/pastors
- To assist FBC Lawton in being obedient to the Great Commission
- To provide humanitarian aid in appropriate settings

Requirements for Mission Participants

- Faithful follower of Jesus Christ.
- Active member of FBC Lawton or a church similar to the faith and beliefs of FBC Lawton for a minimum of 6 months. (Statement of faith available at: <https://www.fbclawton.org/>)
- Active member of Sunday School
- Encouraged to be involved in local mission work, such as *FBC Lawton local missions projects, M28 Ministries, Pregnancy Resource Center, Boys & Girls Club, Etc.*, before traveling on a FBC Lawton mission trip. (*Exercising our mission muscles before going on a mission trip*)
- Great Commission minded.
- Willing to share the Gospel and participate in team strategies to do so.
- Willing to share their personal testimony.
- Able to attend most team meetings and/or training sessions prior to departure unless the team member lives out of town. In that case, he/she should communicate regularly with the team leader via e-mail and/or phone and be able to fulfill any requirements that are deemed necessary by the team leader.
- Their mission trip must be fully funded prior to departure. In the event there is an unpaid balance on a participant's account prior to departure, the team member will not be able to accompany the team on the trip. *For further information, please see the 4.2 Financial Policies.*
- Team members must be 16 and over, unless otherwise indicated by the Team Leader. Team members under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian

on the trip, unless it is a mission trip designated for students entering 6-12th grades. Parental or guardian permission is required for team members who are under 18 years of age.

Required Documentation

- Application for Short-Term missions
- Personal testimony form
- Criminal Background Check (Background checks are completed annually and the cost is absorbed by the team participant. For updated cost, contact the appropriate team leader or the Missions Team Chairperson. In the event that an individual has a history of criminal activities, the Missions team will discuss the matter and will determine whether or not he/she will be allowed to participate in mission endeavors of FBC Lawton.
- List of 5 prayer partners.
- Copy of passport and/or visa for international trips.
- Notarized Waiver of Liability, and Emergency Medical Care Authorization form.
- Proof of insurance, and documentation that it is valid overseas if it is an international trip.

Requirements for Team Leaders *(Same as Mission Participants requirements + the following)*

- Actively involved as a teacher, leader and/or volunteer in FBC Lawton activities.
- A servant leader who is willing to effectively lead his/her team into difficult and unknown situations.
- Shares the Gospel on a regular basis.
- Able to train team members in evangelism, culture, religious beliefs, language, etc.
- Team leader must be 21 years of age or older.

Policies for Team Behavior and Attitudes

Individuals participating on FBC Lawton sanctioned mission endeavors are reminded that they are ambassadors of Jesus Christ (II Corinthians 5:20). As teams go on mission they not only represent Him, but FBC Lawton, the United States, and the supporting mission agency (if applicable). For this reason, FBC Lawton requests that each team member seek to be above reproach in his/her actions and attitudes.

- Team members must submit to the team leader's authority and leadership.
- Political uncertainty is always of great concern of FBC Lawton while serving in the international mission field. Therefore, FBC Lawton requests that team members refrain from expressing political opinions and comments.
- Refrain from profanity, alcohol, the use of tobacco products, illegal drugs, gambling, immorality, and any other activities that do not align themselves with Scripture.

- All team members must adhere to the behavioral guidelines for each specific team set by the team leader and the missionary agency with consideration towards the culture to which the team is going.
- A team leader reserves the right to ask an individual whose behavior is unacceptable in the field to return home. Any cost incurred as a result of this action will solely be the responsibility of the team participant.

Insurance

All FBC Lawton mission teams participating in international mission travel are required to have travel insurance. Travel insurance is purchased through a FBC Lawton approved insurance company and is included in the total trip cost for each team participant. The safety and health of each of our team members is important, not only to the team participant but also to his/her family and FBC Lawton. In the event that there is a health emergency while in the field, FBC Lawton wants to make certain that proper care and treatment can be administered immediately and without delay. Granted, anything can happen while serving in the mission field, but we must be proactive and have a plan of response in the event that an emergency occurs.