



Oak Hills Church Short Term Missions New COVID-19 Protocols as of February 24, 2021

COVID-19 has created new challenges to international team travel. In an effort to restart our Short-Term Mission (STM) trips while safeguarding our Short-Term team members and our host partners in country, we have created options and protocols for participating in 2021 OHC STM trips. These are based on the best available medical information and current travel requirements and will be re-evaluated at the end of 2021 and as circumstances change.

Local and Domestic Short Term Mission Trips

- 1) For all activities - including team meetings, team travel and field ministry - participants will be asked to abide by current CDC recommendations for social distancing and wearing of face coverings. I will abide by these guidelines as directed by my team leaders.
- 2) Participants should consult with their doctor regarding the COVID-19 vaccination. This will not be a requirement for participating in a local or domestic STM trip.

International Short Term Mission Trips

- 1) Because of the additional variables and changing requirements for air travel, entry to destination countries, re-entry to the United States, and testing and quarantine rules, we have determined that all Short-Term Mission travelers leaving the United States in 2021 should have a Covid-19 vaccination. They should carry their vaccination card in their passport in to facilitate foreign travel and re-entry into the United States.
- 2) The youngest age of international STM participants for 2021 will be 16 years old, since that is the youngest Covid-19 vaccination age available at this time.
- 3) There is now a mask mandate for domestic and most international air travel. I will abide by the governmental guidelines while we are guests in a host country, and for the benefit and comfort of our hosts.
- 4) I understand that prior to boarding a plane from the U.S., I will be answering a health screening questionnaire along with a temperature check.
- 5) As of January 26th, 2021, anyone flying to the U.S. from an international destination is required to show proof of a rapid antigen test or a PCR Covid-19 test - with a negative result - taken within 3 days of their return trip to the U.S. I understand that this test will be at my expense.
- 6) The OHC Trip Leader will verify with our missionary partners or OHC missionaries - before departing the U.S. to the international area of service - that these tests are readily available to our travelers.
- 7) Each OHC short-term mission traveler will be responsible for the increased cost of travel insurance due to the Covid-19 pandemic and will be informed of that cost prior to ticket purchase.
- 8) I acknowledge that I will be responsible for any extra expenses incurred due to a positive test while in country or upon arriving back to the U.S. This includes, but is not limited to, medical care, hotel stays, food costs, and airline change fees.

I understand that this is a fluid policy and elements within it can be changed at any time, with any new OHC policy implementation. This also includes any new requirements made by the U.S. federal, state, and local agencies, CDC or the airline industry. OHC will alert travelers to any policy changes.

Signature of OHC STM Participant: Date: Signature of STM Minister: Date:
