

Summer Intern Handbook 2011

Welcome to Students International!

This handbook is designed to give you as much information as possible about our summer intern program. It contains information about the logistics of travel, health, safety, schedules and responsibilities.

We look forward to working with you and are honored to partner with you. God will use your gifts and service to minister to the staff, students and nationals.

We thank you for your commitment to working with us this summer, and we want to serve you by providing the information contained in this handbook. If you have questions about any of this material, please feel free to contact us.

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Objectives for Your Summer

Our principal aim is to provide an opportunity for you to serve with our ministry. Students International is a twofold ministry; reaching out to the nationals with the good news of Christ, and providing students with an opportunity to use their gifts in missions. You will partner with the staff to minister in these two areas. The program is centered around three objectives:

- 1 To bless the staff of Students International through your service.
- 2 To reach out to the nationals and students in the ministry.
- 3 To experience, for a short time, what it is like to live overseas and be a missionary and to see if God is calling you to full time service.

***“I PRESS ON TOWARDS THE GOAL
TO WIN THE PRIZE FOR WHICH GOD
HAS CALLED ME HEAVENWARDS
IN CHRIST JESUS.”
PHIL. 3:13***

Intern Responsibilities

We suggest you review these responsibilities to get an understanding of what you will need to do in the weeks and months ahead.

Before You Go

- Discuss and communicate with your family and church concerning the program
- Fundraise for the amount budgeted
- Set up an account with the International Office
- Obtain a passport
- Make airline reservations
- Set up health insurance with the International Office
- Read pre-field training book and turn response paper into field supervisor
- Check with your doctor for any health considerations
- Obtain the necessary shots
- Return the required completed reference forms and waiver to the CA Service Center
- Pack according to suggestions
- Pray for your summer, the teams that will come, the nationals and the staff on a regular basis

While in Country

- Participate in summer intern orientation
- Participate in all scheduled meetings, ministry times and activities
- Complete all tasks assigned to you, some of which may include translating for students, integrating the teams into their ministry sites, leading Bible studies, airport runs, accompanying teams on their excursion, leading worship, organizing evening activities, praying for the staff and the teams, and participating at a ministry site.
- Set an example to the students by obeying all conduct and team rules
- Pray for those in leadership, those on the outreach, and those who you meet

When You Return

- Write thank you notes to donors
- Share your experience and God's work in your life with your Christian community
- Continue to pray for the staff and ministry of SI

Pre-Field Training

You will read and write a response paper on the book titled; *Ministering Cross-Culturally; An Incarnational Model for Personal Relationships* by Sherwood Lingenfelter. You will need to purchase this book on your own. This reading will prepare you for your work this summer in a cross-cultural context and allow you to more effectively speak into the lives of the students you will be leading. The response paper needs to be 2 to 3 pages, double spaced. Write about

what you learned about yourself, how your understanding of cross-cultural interactions has expanded, and how you hope to use this material this summer. Email the paper, attached as a Word document, to your field supervisor before you arrive in country.

SI Staff Responsibilities

Our goal is to serve you by shouldering the burden of logistics and providing you with an incredible summer of serving the Lord.

Before You Go

- Assist with airline arrangements
- Assist you with any issues concerning the preparation before you leave
- Organize and coordinate your assignments
- Pray for you and the team

While in Country

- Transportation to and from the airport
- Orient the summer intern team
- Provide clean, safe and comfortable housing
- Provide meals, except occasional weekend meals
- Provide all ground transportation to ministry sites or scheduled events
- Give supervision and leadership during the summer
- Provide an excursion for the summer interns in the country
- Pray for you and the summer intern team

When You Return

- Provide debriefing materials and suggestions
- Pray for you as you adjust to being back at home

Intern Fees

The cost of the program is \$175 per week plus International Travel Insurance. For example, a 10-week program will be \$1,750 plus insurance at \$1.19 per day. Program length varies by country. You can raise this money through supporters. *If you plan to raise funds through SI contact our office to request response envelopes.* You will want to bring extra money for spending money and some meals.

What the Fees Cover

- three meals a day during the program (except for occasional weekend meals)
 - housing
 - all ground transportation for scheduled activities while in country
 - training
 - supervision by staff
 - administration of program
 - weekend excursion
-

Fees Do Not Cover

- airline tickets
- any shots you may need
- health insurance for the summer
- transportation to and from the US airport
- tourist card (DR \$10)
- airport exit tax (Costa Rica \$26)
- obtaining a passport (approx. \$110)
- free-time activities
- Meals when there are no teams
- Cross-cultural training book

Fundraising

There are two important factors that influence all fundraising efforts for a Mission's trip. They will either make or break your efforts, so we want to encourage you in these areas.

Feelings about fundraising

It is important to examine how you view fundraising. Many of us have negative feelings in one way or another concerning fundraising. These negative or uncomfortable feelings are usually based on an incorrect concept of raising money for a missions trip and can hinder what God wants to give to us. It would be a good idea to go through the list of "Common Misconceptions about Fundraising" and head off some of these feelings before you start.

Fundraising is a spiritual matter

God is not interested in just "plopping down" hundreds of dollars for someone to go on a missions trip. He is more interested in a personal relationship with you and each one of your supporters. God wants to use your fundraising activities to deepen your walk with Him. Fundraising always causes people to grow in their faith and to come before the Lord in prayer and praise as we are faced with His faithfulness.

Fundraising Goals

Here is a sample breakdown of what you could be shooting for. This is only an example but one that is fairly attainable. Often times people raise their entire amount through newsletters.

\$150 from working, doing odd jobs and saving \$50 a month
\$150 from parents, or an equivalent matching fund to the amount you have saved
\$200 from a church
\$850 from a mission's newsletter
\$1850

"YOU ARE A CHOSEN PEOPLE, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE BELONGING TO GOD, THAT YOU MAY DECLARE THE PRAISES OF HIM WHO CALLED YOU OUT OF DARKNESS INTO HIS WONDERFUL LIGHT." 1 PETER 2:9

Raising Money Through Newsletters

The primary way for you to raise finances is to write a missions newsletter to 75 - 100 people you know. It is the most widely used and accepted way of raising funds for a missions outreach of this nature.

Approximately 80 - 90% of all your funds can be generated this way, but it requires some organization and discipline to do it.

You should be aware that there are a few objections to this method that people have which are not usually founded on fact but on feelings.

1

Often the first impression is that you don't know many people to write to. Sometimes you really don't know that many people. And if this is the case, then write to those you do know and let the Lord work it out. But for most, you do know this many people. The people you know might not be your "ideal" type of donor — people having lots of money, overtly generous, and knowing you intimately. It is true that you probably only know a couple of people like that. The key is to not judge whether people can or want to give to you but rather let God make that decision. We encourage you not to make a decision for your potential donors by leaving their name off the list. What you need to do is sit down and start making a list of all the people you know before editing the list. We have included a list of categories to help you make your list.

2

Some people feel that a letter asking for money is like begging for money. You will need to help these people realize that it is not begging for money but that you are asking people to support a specific ministry that you are involved in. Explain to them that you are asking them to partner with you in your ministry with Students International. Refer to the page where we talk about common misconceptions of fundraising for help in talking to these people.

3

You may have a primarily non-Christian family and feel awkward about sending them a letter explaining this Christian activity. We encourage you to be bold and to send a letter to your non-Christian family. The Lord may use this letter and you as a witness for the Gospel in the lives of these family members.

**“DO NOT BE AFRAID. STAND FIRM AND YOU WILL SEE THE DELIVERANCE
THE LORD WILL BRING YOU TODAY.
THE LORD WILL FIGHT FOR YOU; YOU NEED ONLY TO BE STILL.”
EXODUS 14:13.14**

Sending Out Newsletters

A newsletter may include a personal letter from you including pictures and budget, a brochure,
and a stamped response envelope for the donor to mail to Students International.

1 Set up a time, sit down and write your newsletter. Pray about your letter and put your heart into it. Review the sample newsletter to help you with ideas. Remember this isn't nearly as hard as your last term paper.

2 Once your letters are photocopied, ask friends to help you address, stamp and stuff envelopes with your letter and a response envelope.

3 The materials you will need to complete this project: A list of 75-100 names and their addresses; stamps for 75-100 envelopes; 75-100 mailing envelopes, 75- 100 response envelopes (you can get these from the SI International office).

4 The donors will then write checks out to Students International. ***Be sure to write your ID number on the response envelopes.*** Ask your donors not to write your name on the check. You will be able to see who has given towards your ministry in an on-line account we have set up for you.

*This might sound like a lot of work but
you must remember that 80-90% of all
your finances will come from mailing
these newsletters.*

Making a List of Names

Start by making a list of everyone you know. Don't automatically exclude people from the list, that may come later. Here is a list of categories to help you think of people whom you know or those who know you. -- Family, Friends, Friends of the family, Parents of close friends, People at your church home group, Pastoral staff at your church, Sunday school teachers, Youth leaders in your church, Neighbors, Youth leaders of parachurch groups (Young Life, Youth For Christ, InterVarsity, Campus Crusade), Friends in youth groups, Bible studies, or clubs, People at your work, Business people

you know around town, and Previous teachers. You will be surprised by how many people you know!

Pray for the people on the list and for God to direct you. A few days later review the list and pray again about who should not be on the list. Again, try to understand that you shouldn't decide for your friends or family whether they will give toward the summer staff program or not. Let God work in the hearts of your friends and family, and He will decide if they should or are able to give or not.

***“I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.”
Rom. 1:16***

Ten Other Fundraising Ideas

- 1) Identify 15 or more of the 100 people you listed whom you know well and feel comfortable to personally approaching for financial help. This may seem kind of scary but it is one of the most effective means for raising financial support because people like giving to people.
- 2) Set up a time to share in your church. Organize a short presentation around the topics outlined for the newsletter. Have materials ready to give to people.
- 3) Approach the missions committee at your church and apply for financial support.
- 4) Ask your school board or college fellowship group to take an offering for the team at their next meeting.
- 5) See if there is a Christian who owns a local restaurant, ice cream shop or sandwich shop and might be interested in helping raise money for you. This is how it works—the ice cream shop announces that every Tuesday night for the month of May between six and nine they will give a small percentage of their sales to your ministry. Then you in turn get the word out to your classmates, friends, church members and family in order to get people to go to the ice cream shop and buy something. The ice cream shop will love the patronage, and you will get additional support.
- 6) Explore civic clubs (e.g. Lions, Elks, Rotary) which might be interested in hearing a presentation and would like to help financially. If you want to do this, check with our office for sample proposals.
- 7) Announce in church and at school that you (and maybe some friends who would volunteer their time) are up for hire and the proceeds go toward your financial needs to work as summer staff. Suggest painting jobs, lawn and garden care, housework —things that a group of people could do on a Saturday morning or afternoon.

- 8) Hold car washes and bake sales. This will probably take a group effort. If you hold your car-wash or bake sale at Wal-Mart, they often match every dollar you raise up to a certain amount. Contact your Wal-Mart for more information.
- 9) Large restaurant chains such as Sweet Tomatoes or Soup Plantation have corporate fundraising programs where they donate 20% of every person who comes in during a specific date. Check your restaurants in your areas for similar deals.
- 10) Partner with other people in your college fellowship, church or work who are going on summer mission trips. Offer to do these fundraising ideas together and split the money between those who participate.

Common Misconceptions about Fundraising

You may want to get together with someone who has been on mission trips before and is a mature Christian. Go over this list of feelings and truths together. Spend some time in prayer for your fundraising.

Feelings	Biblical Truth	The Facts
<p>“I feel guilty asking for money for something that is exciting and sounds like a vacation.”</p>	<p>Read Psalm 40:7, 8 and Hebrews 12:2 and compare these passages with Paul’s testimony of his life and ministry in 2 Cor. 4:7-11; 6:3-10. Note the contrasts of “joy” and “desire” (or delight) with suffering and hardship. Ask God to help you communicate a realistic view of your ministry to your friends as you invite their support.</p>	<p>Excitement over service for God will be caught by your friends and family. There is nothing wrong with this kind of excitement. The work and experience you will have will be both exciting and difficult at times. Your communication of all aspects of the ministry will be important.</p>
<p>“I don’t feel like I’m anyone special to be asking for money.”</p> <p>“There are plenty of better things that people would rather give to.”</p>	<p>Read Exodus 4, Judges 6, and Isaiah 6:1-9. Note the affirmations God makes concerning how He sees Moses, Gideon, and Isaiah. Ask Him to show you how He sees you. Reflect on Psalm 139 and notice God’s care for you.</p>	<p>You are a child of the Most High, the Lord of Lords, Almighty God. He has reached out to you, forgiven you of your sin, filled you with the Holy Spirit, and now has called you to proclaim what He has done. We base our worth not on what the world sees as important, but on the reality of God’s relationship with us and what He calls us to do. That is important enough to be worthy of support.</p>

“Asking for money goes against everything I’ve been taught.”

“I feel like I’m a welfare case.”

“I just don’t like asking for money.”

“Asking for money is uncomfortable because people’s money is a private affair.”

Think through Christ’s commission to His disciples in Matt 28:18-20 and Acts 1:8 and His words of purpose in Matt 16:18. Whose cause are you serving and inviting your friends to join you in?

You are not asking for money for yourself but for God and His work in and through you. You are merely a steward of God’s gifts as are your potential donors; thus you are working together to help fulfill the Great Commission. Asking for financial donations for secular issues has been around for a long time and is well accepted. As good as most of these are, what you are doing is far more important—you will be affecting peoples’ lives for the Kingdom of God for eternity.

“The job is impossible.”

“I don’t know very many people.”

“The people I know don’t have much money for themselves, let alone for me.”

Reflect on God’s faithfulness and awesome power in Exodus 14 and 15.

It’s God who is our provider, not people. It is God, the creator of the universe, who is calling you to His work, and He will be faithful to you and to those who give to you. God’s desire is that all of His people give to the advancement of His Kingdom, regardless of their financial situation. He will prompt people to respond to you, even people you think can’t afford it.

Sample Missions Newsletter

Dear Friends and Family,

This summer from June 7th to August 18th, I will be traveling to Guatemala to serve on a summer mission trip. I will be serving as a summer intern with Students International. This ministry reaches out to the poor through evangelism and community development. They have summer short-term groups of high school and college students who minister with the on-going ministry sites. Some of these students will be ministering through physical therapy at a rural clinic, some through teaching at an elementary school and others in various fields helping those in need. I will be helping out this ministry in a variety of ways. The long-term staff have special needs to continue their ministry, and I will serve them by meeting some of those needs.

This is a great opportunity to learn, but it's also a chance to share the Gospel and display the love of God. I will be helping to fulfill God's commandment. This trip will cost about \$1,750 and I would like to ask you, as a brother or sister in Christ, if you would make a financial contribution to this outreach on my behalf. I would also appreciate your prayers for this opportunity to minister.

If you would like to support me, please make your check payable to Students International for tax-deductible purposes. My personal ID # is on the enclosed envelope to help direct the money to my account. Pray about the part God wants you to play in this event. And may God bless you for your time and support.

Thank You,

Logistics

Airline Reservations and Ticketing

You will be making your own airline reservations. Please contact our office for the specifics of when you should arrive and depart.

Passports and Visas

Passports

Apply for your passport as soon as possible. You can pick up passport applications at your post office or print one online. The cost to apply for a passport is about \$110. Make 2 copies of your passport. You will want to keep a copy of the passport with your emergency contact in the States. You should also keep a passport copy for yourself while you are in the country. You will want to keep your passport in a safe and secure place while you are in the country.

Visas

You do not need a visa to enter Guatemala, Fiji, Costa Rica or the Dominican Republic if you are a Canadian or US citizen.

“GOD PLUS ONE ARE ALWAYS A MAJORITY – LET ME KNOW THOU ART WITH ME.”

MARY SLESSOR AS A YOUNG WOMAN FROM A POOR SCOTTISH FAMILY IN THE LATE 1800’S WENT TO THE SUDAN AND FOUGHT FOR THE RIGHT OF THE AFRICAN WOMAN TO BE FREE FROM DEATH AT THE WHIM OF A MAN. AT HER DEATH 40 YEARS LATER THOUSANDS OF AFRICANS WEPT FOR THE EKA KPUKPRO OWO, “MOTHER OF ALL THE PEOPLES.”

Medical Shots and Precaution

Though there are no required shots to enter Guatemala, Fiji, Costa Rica or the Dominican Republic we recommend that all participants and volunteers that travel with Students International take full precautions with regard to personal vaccinations. Several vaccinations and/or immunizations require a series of treatments and we strongly recommend that you see a physician as soon as possible so that you may receive the proper medical precautions before you leave for the summer. The Center for Disease Control's recommendations for each country are listed below.

<i>Costa Rica</i>	<i>Dominican Republic</i>	<i>Fiji</i>	<i>Guatemala</i>
Current on Tetanus & Measles	Current on Tetanus & Measles	Current on Tetanus & Measles	Current on Tetanus & Measles
Hepatitis A	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis A
Hepatitis B	Hepatitis B	Hepatitis B	Hepatitis B
Typhoid	Typhoid	Typhoid	Typhoid
	Malaria		

For more info www.cdc.gov/travel

1: Guatemala: The Center for Disease Control, CDC, states there is no need for antimalarial prophylaxis for traveling in the central highlands of Guatemala, which is where you will be. Antigua is 5000 feet above sea level.

2: Check with your physician to find out if your normal vaccinations are current. We strongly recommend that you receive any necessary boosters, particularly for DPT and polio.

3: We strongly recommend that you receive a vaccination against Hepatitis A. Hepatitis A is usually transmitted through improper preparation of food. We tremendously reduce the risk of getting Hepatitis A by handling our own food and knowing how to properly prepare it. But there is the off chance when you are eating out that you may pick up something that causes Hepatitis A.

4: Another kind of hepatitis, called Hepatitis B, is primarily picked up through contact with blood or blood serum. For those working in the medical and sports sites we strongly recommend you receive a vaccination for Hepatitis B. We tremendously reduce the risk of getting Hepatitis B at the medical site by wearing the proper attire in surgery or in the examination room when needed.

6: If you are on a medication consult your physician in order to be properly prepared. We recommend that you bring an extra week's worth of medication with you, the generic name of the medication and to give the name or names of your medication to your supervisor in country and emergency contact. Carry the medication in the prescription bottle.

“THE GODLY MAN IS THE UNGODLY MAN’S BIBLE.” CORRIE TEN BOON

Emergency Contact Person

You must select a person who Students International can contact in case of emergency.

Medical Insurance

You will obtain medical insurance for the summer through Students International. The cost will be approximately \$1.19 per day. Prior to leaving for the field you will receive, by email, an insurance card that will cover you for the dates you will be out of the country. Carry this card with you at all times.

The insurance is through IMG International. There is a \$100 deductible. The insurance is on a reimbursement basis. Medical care will need to be paid for when the service is rendered and a claim submitted to the insurance company when you return to the states.

Coverage:

- \$100,000 medical maximum
- \$50,000 medical evacuation
- \$20,000 return of moral remains
- \$25,000 accidental death and dismemberment
- \$10,000 emergency medical reunion
- Return of minor children
- Interruption of trip
- Loss of checked luggage
- Dental emergencies

“THEY SANG A NEW SONG, ‘YOU ARE WORTHY TO TAKE THE SCROLL AND TO OPEN ITS SEALS, BECAUSE YOU WERE SLAIN, AND WITH YOUR BLOOD YOU PURCHASED MEN FOR GOD FROM EVERY TRIBE AND LANGUAGE AND PEOPLE AND NATION. YOU HAVE MADE THEM TO BE A KINGDOM AND PRIESTS TO SERVE OUR GOD, AND THEY WILL REIGN ON THE EARTH.’”

REV 5:9, 10

What to Bring and Not Bring

To help you pack and come adequately prepared, we are providing a recommended packing list. We prefer you to come with only one check in bag and one carry-on bag of personal belongings. In some instances we allow interns to bring 2 checked bags. Check with our office for specifics. You can do laundry very easily while in country.

Recommended Clothing

<i>WOMEN</i>	<i>MEN</i>
<p>Be modest in your attire, jewelry, and makeup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 7-8 pairs of pants (Capri pants are okay) <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 loose dresses or skirts (for ministry site, banquet and church, must be at or below the knee) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 slip to be worn with skirts or dresses <input type="checkbox"/> 12-15 casual shirts, blouses, and/or t-shirts <input type="checkbox"/> 2 sweaters or sweatshirts or long sleeve shirts <input type="checkbox"/> 1 wind breaker or light jacket <input type="checkbox"/> 2 pair of shorts (knee length Fiji, mid-thigh in DR & Costa Rica, Capri length in Guatemala) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pair of comfortable walking shoes <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pair of shoes to use at your ministry site that you don't mind getting dirty. If you are at the Appropriate Technology or the Agriculture site, we recommend you bring work boots. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pair of flip flops or slippers for around the base/home <input type="checkbox"/> 2 towels and washcloths <input type="checkbox"/> Personal toiletries; electricity is AC, 110 volts <input type="checkbox"/> A modest one piece swimsuit - no high-cut suits (Fiji - surf shorts & t-shirt to wear over swimsuit) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 set of athletic clothing if you like to play sports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 5 pairs of pants (for ministry site and church) <input type="checkbox"/> 2 dress shirts (for church and banquet nights) <input type="checkbox"/> 10-12 casual shirts and/or t-shirts <input type="checkbox"/> 2 sweater or sweatshirt <input type="checkbox"/> 1 wind breaker or light jacket <input type="checkbox"/> 2 pair of knee length shorts (most sites you cannot wear shorts) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pair of comfortable walking shoes <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pair of shoes to use at your ministry site that you don't mind getting dirty. If you are at the Appropriate Technology or the Agriculture site, we recommend you bring work boots. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pair of flip flops for around the base/home <input type="checkbox"/> 2 towels and washcloths <input type="checkbox"/> Personal toiletries; electricity is AC, 110 volts <input type="checkbox"/> No earrings <input type="checkbox"/> Swim trunks (no speedos)

Other Items to Bring

Passport & copy of passport
 Bible, notebook/journal & pen
 Sunscreen
 Aloe Vera or sunburn lotion
 Insect Repellent (with DEET)
 After Bite or anti itch lotion

Flashlight
 Travel Alarm
 Personal Medications (prescriptions, Tylenol, etc)
 Water bottle (sealable)
 Camera
 Sun visor/cap, sunglasses

Hand sanitizer
Small umbrella
Extra glasses if you wear contacts
Drivers License (Costa Rica)

Small day pack/fanny pack
Rain poncho/jacket or other rain gear
Twin sheets & pillow case (DR)

Weather

The DR usually has cool nights and hot, humid days with lows dropping to the 60s and 70s and highs in the 80s and 90s. In Guatemala, Magdalena is usually cool nights and warm days with lows dropping to the 50s and 60s and highs in the 70s and 80s. The breeze can be cool. March and April are the hottest months with temperatures occasionally rising to 90 degrees. June through October are the rainiest months with rain usually falling only for brief periods in the late afternoon and evenings. Mornings in Costa Rica are sunny with afternoon rain, highs in the 80s with some humidity. Nights are cool, dropping to low 60s.

General Guidelines On What to Wear

- Jeans, pants, or Capri pants should be worn at the ministry sites (in the DR and Costa Rica – shorts may be worn at the sports and construction ministry sites). Skirts are also appropriate for women; however, at some sites pants are preferable.
- No low cut waists on pants, jeans, or Capri pants.
- Shorts must be mid thigh or below (our definition of mid thigh is the tips of one's fingers when they are standing with their arms at their side).
- No shirts exposing the midriff or cleavage
- No tank tops or spaghetti straps. Sleeveless shirts are okay, but they must cover the majority of the shoulder.
- No low cut collars on shirts.

The Golden Rules Concerning Dress

- ❖ If you are unsure whether something is appropriate or not, assume it is not to be on the safe side.
- ❖ If you are asked to change clothes, be flexible and change your clothes.

What everyone should not bring

You may not bring knives, squirt guns or any type of military clothing. iPods are okay but only to be used sparingly. Be sure to pack your passport, money, prescription medication and/or any other hard to replace items or valuables in your carry on whenever you fly.

If you have any body piercing, other than earrings on women, we ask that you leave your jewelry at home. In many parts of the world people with body piercing are sometimes looked upon as non-Christians and often as drug users, and it sends a different message to them than the one you came to give. In all that you do and bring to the ministry, we ask you to be sensitive to the culture. That said, in Costa Rica piercings are generally okay, but need to be removed at the discretion of staff and/or field director.

Packing tips

- Make a checklist before you pack to avoid forgetting anything

- Rolling your clothes allows you to pack a lot
- Pack according to probability of use. Keep most used items on top
- Do not bring valuables
- Bring photos of your family and friends to share with people you meet
- Carry your camera in your carry-on
- Leave a copy of your itinerary with family or friends in case of emergency
- Bring items that are lightweight, drip dry, and as wrinkle-proof as possible
- Check airline baggage regulations

***“TO THE WEAK I BECAME WEAK, THAT I MIGHT WIN THE WEAK; I HAVE
BECOME ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN, THAT I MAY BY ALL MEANS SAVE
SOME.”***

APOSTLE PAUL 1 COR. 9:22

Leaving the United States

You will want to check in and receive boarding passes at least three hours in advance for international flights. There will not be any additional taxes taken at the airport. In the plane the airline crew will hand out visa information.

When You Arrive

Immigration

When you arrive in country you will need to fill out an immigration form. You will receive this form on the plane. On the form you will be asked the purpose of your trip, check tourist/pleasure, and where you will be staying.

- *Costa Rica* Desamparados de San Jose
- *Dominican Republic* Jarabacoa
- *Guatemala* Antigua
- *Fiji* Nadi

When you arrive in the DR you will need to purchase a tourist card. The tourist card counter is down the escalator to the left. The cards are \$10USD.

Going Through Customs

After you go through the immigration booths, you will then walk to the baggage pickup. Once you get your luggage walk through customs. Make sure you have your luggage ticket stub with you to identify your luggage. They may go through your luggage at that time, but this is rare.

Meeting the SI Field Staff

After you go through customs, go out and meet the SI staff for further instructions. Field staff will be waiting for you outside of the airport with a sign either with your name or saying Students International. They will also be carrying identification. Keep an eye out for them to find them quickly.

Changing Money

There is a place to change money in the airport. Don't change it there. There will be time and plenty of places to change money later. Ask the staff to help you change money once you get settled

***“O DIVINE MASTER, GRANT THAT I MAY NOT SO MUCH SEEK TO BE
CONSOLED AS TO CONSOLE; TO BE UNDERSTOOD AS TO UNDERSTAND;
TO BE LOVED AS TO LOVE; FOR IS IN GIVING THAT WE RECEIVE; IT IS IN
PARDONING THAT WE ARE PARDONED; AND IT IS IN DYING THAT WE ARE
BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE.”***

FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Two Week Schedule

The 13-day outreaches you will be helping with consistently follow this schedule. We provide the information to give you an idea of what the ministry time will look like.

<i>Monday</i>	The team will usually travel on Monday and arrive in the country Monday evening
<i>Tuesday</i>	Orientation time with the team
<i>Wednesday - Friday</i>	The team will minister at their chosen sites on each of these days. Refer to the daily schedule.
<i>Saturday</i>	Excursion
<i>Sunday</i>	Students will attend church. The rest of the day will be free time.
<i>Monday - Friday</i>	The team will minister at their chosen sites on each of these days. Refer to the daily schedule.
<i>Saturday</i>	The teams will pack and head for the airport.

An Example of a Daily Schedule

6:15 Wake-up & getting ready
 6:45 Group worship time
 7:30 Personal devotions
 8:15 Breakfast
 8:45 Ministry sites (lunch at the sites)
 4:00 Return home & clean up
 6:30 Dinner & free time
 7:30 Group activities & free time
 10:00 Lights out

Student Rules of Conduct

There are several rules students must abide by in order to ensure safety, simplify group logistics and conduct a life-style pleasing to the Lord. It is important for you to know these rules so that you can follow them as an example for the students, and to hold them accountable as well.

- No tobacco use
- No drinking alcohol
- No flirting, handholding, or any sexual activity
- No possession or use of illegal drugs or firearms
- No one out later than 9:00 pm (except with staff approval)
- After dark you must be in a group of five or more with at least one being an SI staff, a team staff, or a male when out in town
- Before dark you must be in a group of three or more with at least one being an SI staff, a team staff, or a male when out in town
- Invitations to a friend's home is subject to staff's approval
- Do not accept invitations from nationals of the opposite sex

One of the most difficult areas for many students is in the area of flirting. Often times it is unintentional, but it is perceived within the host culture as a sexual advance and it destroys the effectiveness of their Christian witness and places them in an awkward position. If it is noticed by our staff that a student is purposely flirting and doesn't stop when asked, then that student may be sent home.

As you are part of our ministry to students, you may not engage in any special relationships with any of the students. If a special interest begins while you are ministering with us this summer, we ask that you pray about the relationship and wait until you return home to act upon anything. We ask you to be focused on ministry and not on special relationships. If a staff notices any inappropriate behavior, they will remind you of your commitment to the Lord and Students International, and ask you to refrain from continued behavior.

Students will be sent home immediately at their own expense if they are involved in any sexual relationships, drinking of alcohol, use or possession of illegal drugs or excessive abuse of the other rules of conduct. This also applies to summer staff.

“IF MY HEART BURNED FOR THE REVOLUTION IN THE PAST, THEN IT BURNS EVEN MORE NOW. IF I DID NOT A LOT FOR THE POOR BEFORE, THEN I DO MORE NOW.”
ROSARIO RIVERA WAS THE ASSISTANT TO CUBA'S REVOLUTIONARY, CHE GUEVARA. IN 1971, IN PERU, SHE RECEIVED JESUS CHRIST AS HER PERSONAL SAVIOR. SHE IS NOW SERVING HIM WITH FAR MORE FERVENCY THAN SHE EVER DID AS A POLITICAL REVOLUTIONARY.

Meals

One area of concern is food and water safety. We take this very seriously and take as much precaution as possible to ensure safe, enjoyable and nutritious meals. Buying, cleaning and preparing our food is done carefully. There will be lunches made (usually a meat sandwich or peanut butter and jelly sandwich, chips, cookies, fruit, etc.) for everyone to take to their ministry site. For dinner, you will have delicious national dishes. Students are expected to eat meals at the base, but interns will have a little more freedom to go out occasionally. We would like you to eat with the students as much as possible to get to know them. Many of the weekend meals will not be made at the base. On days when there are no teams you may be responsible for your own meals. The staff will give you meal options. The majority of the established restaurants cater to foreigners and know how to properly wash and cook their food to good health standards.

Free Time

Every day there will be times that are not scheduled and the students may use this time to wash clothes, get a soda, go to the market, swim, play games, rest, etc. On Saturday the team will go on an excursion and you may be assigned to go lead them on this trip. You will also be assigned to take teams to church on Sunday. On Sunday after church, the team has free time and we want to encourage you to spend time with the team members. Although we desire for you to spend time with students and serve the staff whenever possible, we also want you to take care of yourself and have time with the Lord. Please communicate to your supervisor any scheduling issues or overtiredness that may come up for you. We also want you to be cared for and to be spiritually refreshed in your ministry this summer.

Sleeping Arrangements

In the DR and Fiji interns will stay in dormitory style housing at the base; in Guatemala housing will be with host families; in Costa Rica housing will be in a hostel with the team, at a staff members home or with host families.

Money

In Guatemala, Fiji and Costa Rica ATM machines are available. In the Dominican Republic you will need to ask your supervisor when and where to access money.

Keeping Safe

Whenever one travels to another country there is a certain level of risk. It is important that you know and understand the risk you will be taking. This isn't to frighten you or your parents, but to inform and share how we intend to lower the risk factor to acceptable norms. Often people will stereotype a country without knowledge of it and form an opinion as to whether it is safe or not. Sometimes their opinion is based on a story they heard, an experience in a similar country, a sensational news report, or old information. For example, German tourists not wanting to travel to California, because a German couple was attacked and killed. European tourists avoiding the state of Florida because of some incidents involving robberies and snipers. Many Californians will avoid New York City because "it is not safe" and New Yorkers avoid Los Angeles because of earthquakes, gangs, or mud slides. And then people from the Midwestern states don't want to visit either state. The key for you to determine whether it is safe for you to minister in the DR, Costa Rica, Fiji or Guatemala with SI is to look at the risks. Look at how we handle those risks, and then see if it meets your standard of safety. The following is a list of dangerous situations and how we manage them to reduce the level of risk to an acceptable norm.

Risk #1

Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica and Fiji are considered to be very safe countries for U.S. travelers. Yet there exists some petty street crime similar to most cities in North America. We enforce certain policies that reduce the chance of you becoming a victim of a crime. We recommend that you do not walk by yourself, especially after dark. Maintaining a group of three is always the safest way to go. Our staff know the area very well and can instruct you where it is not safe to go.

Risk #2

In most third world countries, there is a concern of staying healthy. Illnesses in the countries in which SI ministers that are a significant threat to health are hepatitis A, cholera, typhoid, tetanus, malaria, polio, amoebas and hepatitis B (for students working at a medical site). If you follow the immunization recommendations mentioned earlier and consult your doctor you should be covered very well. Along with those medical precautions, we provide and use bottled water. Our cooks carefully prepare and cook the food for our teams. During orientation we will communicate to you which restaurants consistently serve safe food and what not to eat while in country, ie food from vendors, certain fruit, etc. There may be a situation in which a local family cooks a meal for the team as a way of showing their appreciation. In this situation the ministry site leader will use his or her judgment on whether to accept or refuse. We actively try not to place ourselves in those situations, but some are unavoidable. For those on the medical team we take universal precautions (gown, gloves, mask) while in surgery or anytime we are working around an open wound.

Risk #3

The DR is a hurricane-prone country. While we have not been in any serious danger due to the effects of a hurricane, we have an extensive emergency plan that includes several options for relocating out of the way of a hurricane into shelters and plans for evacuating individuals and teams if necessary. If you would like a written copy of our plan, please contact our office to receive one.

Risk #4

There is one more risk we want to talk about and that is the risk of not participating in a missions outreach such as this. There is a real danger and threat that stalks our youth today and that is the danger of becoming spiritually apathetic Christians — people growing up to think that being a Christian is simply going to church and sitting by while the world yearns for a Savior.

In Conclusion

We cannot guarantee complete safety but we believe we have set up a program and follow certain policies that make this time for you as safe as if you were wisely traveling within the United States. You are important to us, your families, and to God and we don't take that lightly. We also believe that the safest place for them is not in your home town nor in a foreign country, but in the center of God's will.

Some thoughts on Safety from the book

Culture of Fear

by Frank Furedi

- “Today, the fear of taking risks is creating a society that celebrates victimhood rather than heroism. The virtues held up to be followed are passivity rather than activism, safety rather than boldness.”
- “The evaluation of everything from the perspective of safety is a defining characteristic of contemporary society. When safety is worshipped and risks seen as intrinsically bad, society is making a clear statement about the values that ought to guide life.”
- “Safety has become the fundamental value of the 1990s. Passions that were once devoted to a struggle to change the world are now invested in trying to ensure that we are safe.”
- “Safety is not something that could be acquired just by wanting it. Those who propose avoiding risks and gaining safety will invariably find that what they acquire instead are obsessions.”

Expressing Gratitude to Your Donors

Make sure you write a thank you newsletter to all your donors and prayer supporters. You may want to set aside time in the middle of the summer to write an update, and when you return to the States to write a thank you letter to your supporters. Many people send out bi-weekly or monthly letters via email.

**“THEREFORE, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED
BY SUCH A GREAT CLOUD OF WITNESSES,
LET US THROW OFF EVERYTHING THAT HINDERS
AND THE SIN THAT SO EASILY ENTANGLES,
AND LET US RUN WITH PERSEVERANCE
THE RACE MARKED OUT FOR US.
LET US FIX OUR EYES ON JESUS,
THE AUTHOR AND PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH,
WHO FOR THE JOY SET BEFORE HIM ENDURED
THE CROSS, SCORNING ITS
SHAME, AND SAT DOWN AT THE
RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE OF GOD.”
HEBREWS 12:1-2**

About Students International

Our Mission: Bringing students and the poor together cross-culturally, to encounter God, share the Good News, disciple and serve others in occupational ministries.

What does this mean?

We see God change the lives of students and the poor during short-term outreaches to foreign countries while they are serving others in and through an area of ministry that relates to their interests, gifts, and/or calling.

Our Vision: To see students and the poor transformed into the likeness of Christ and discover their true calling.

What does this mean?

As a result of our mission, we see students and the poor have significant experiences with God, further discover why He created them, and understand more what He wants them to do with their gifts, capabilities and interests.

Students

- Share the Gospel while caring for those in need
- Discover their true identity and vocational calling
- Expand their worldview, gaining more understanding of their responsibility in it
- Respond to God with clearer purpose for their lives and a deeper pursuit of Him

How is a student changed?

Students are used by God to proclaim the Gospel. They discover that they have been wonderfully made in God's image and called to a specific vocation as part of His plan for their lives. They see a part of the world that is dramatically different from their own which causes them to think and act more responsibly. They commit to follow God more sincerely and single-mindedly.

The Poor

- Discover their true identity and capabilities
- Expand their worldview and understanding of God's role for them
- Improve their physical, social and spiritual lives

How are the poor changed?

The poor discover that they have been wonderfully made in God's image and given capabilities useful for positive change in themselves and others. They relate with and impact students from other countries, thus expanding their own view of the world and how God wants to use them. They work with students and our staff to improve their whole lives (physically, socially and spiritually).

How do we accomplish this?

We do ongoing ministry and international short-term outreaches throughout the year that give students and the poor the opportunity to encounter God and discover their true identity and vocation in Christ. Students and our multi-cultural staff share the Gospel as they serve in areas of need related to their academic and professional pursuits.

Founded in 1993, Students International is a non-profit, non-denominational Christian mission organization.

Students International Emergency Procedure

In the case of an emergency contact the Students International, International Service Center located in California. They will then instruct you as to what should be done next. If you are unable to get in touch with the Service Center please call Pam Christy's cell phone.

Emergency Contact Numbers in the United States

Students International Service Center in California1-559-627-8923
Pam Christy's cell phone1-559-303-1481

Emergency Contact Numbers in the Dominican Republic

Before calling these numbers contact the Students International Service Center.

Lowell Troyer's cell phone (Field Director)1-809-710-8879
Lowell Troyer's home phone1-809-574-2025

Emergency Contact Numbers in Costa Rica

Before calling these numbers contact the Students International Service Center.

Jeff Dixon's home phone (Field Director)011-506-2250-3032
Jeff Dixon's office phone011-506-2250-3049
Jeff Dixon's cell phone011-506-8921-7550

Emergency Contact Numbers in Guatemala

Before calling these numbers contact the Students International Service Center.

Fernando Saravia's cell phone (Field Director)011-502-4009-1172

Emergency Contact Numbers in Fiji

Before calling these numbers contact the Students International Service Center.

In country emergency contact information available from the Service Center

Carry a copy of this page with you while you are traveling in case you should need to contact us for any reason.

Addresses & Phone Numbers

Office in the United States
PO Box 2733
Visalia, CA 93279-2733
Office phone: (559) 627-8923
Fax: (559) 627-3958
E-Mail: students@stint.com
Web Page: www.stint.com

Mailing address in Antigua

Your Name
c/o Fernando Saravia
Apartado Postal #155- El Correo
Antigua, Guatemala 03001
Central America

Mailing Address for the DR

Students International
Unit 2022-SIDR
3170 Airmans Dr.
Ft. Pierce, FL 34946

Your name should be written on back of envelope

Mailing address in Costa Rica

Your Name
C/O Jeff Dixon
Apartado 946-2400
Desamparados, Costa Rica
America Central

Mailing Address in Fiji

Information available from the Service
Center

Your name should be written on back of envelope

Your name should be written on back of envelope

***“FOR WHO IS GOD BESIDES THE LORD? AND WHO IS THE ROCK EXCEPT OUR GOD?
IT IS GOD WHO ARMS ME WITH STRENGTH AND MAKES MY WAY PERFECT.
HE MAKES MY FEET LIKE THE FEET OF A DEER; HE ENABLES ME TO STAND ON
THE HEIGHTS. HE TRAINS MY HANDS FOR BATTLE; MY ARMS CAN BEND A BOW OF BRONZE. YOU
GIVE ME YOUR SHIELD OF VICTORY, AND YOUR RIGHT HAND SUSTAINS ME.”
PSALMS 18:31-35***