

MERCY TECH MISSION

Volunteer Mission Trip Application Form

The goal of Mercy Tech Mission is to take teams of skilled and experienced volunteers to developing countries where they can teach their skills to those living in poverty. We believe in “Changing lives, one skill at a time.”

To be able to teach a trade or skill to someone else, it is critical to first know it well. Therefore it is important for MTM to understand the nature of the skills and talents that our potential volunteers possess. In order for us to make the best and highest use of time and resources as we serve overseas, we ask that you complete the following application form to the best of your ability.

(If you need more space, feel free to write on the back or attach more sheets.)

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____ Birthdate: _____

Passport Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____ Relationship: _____

Current place of employment: _____

Hobbies, interests: _____

Is there anything that prevents you from travelling across foreign borders? _____

Experience and Skills

Please highlight your previous missions or overseas volunteer experience, if any:

City or Country	Year	Length of Stay	Type of Work
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Please indicate any practical skills, training or experience you have (Check all that apply):

carpentry/construction (indicate specialties) _____

plumbing electrical/power generation welding/fabrication (specialties) _____

church work (please indicate area of ministry) _____

arts (music, drama, crafts, etc.) _____

(cont.)

medical/public health/First Aid (please specify) _____

mechanics (indicate type: heavy duty automotive small engine repair airframe
 other: _____)

concrete work bricklaying painting farming/agriculture

photography videotaping/editing sewing/tailoring hairstyling/barber

literacy/ESL office administration bookkeeping/accounting business management

basic computer skills computer programming IT support website design/internet

Please specify other pertinent skills not listed above: _____

Please list any languages that you speak other than English. _____

Please give a brief description of your working career to date, along with pertinent levels of post-secondary education or vocational training:

Personal Expectations

Briefly state why you would like to participate in this short-term mission trip, along with some of your personal expectations.

What strengths or benefits do you feel you can bring to the team?

References

Please provide three references, other than relatives, who can comment on your life and character. By so doing, you consent to Mercy Tech Mission contacting the references and asking them questions regarding your suitability for this trip.

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

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Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Do you attend a local church? _____ If so, name of church: _____

Are you active in local service clubs? If so, which ones? _____

World View

All of us operate from a particular world view, meaning the way in which we see our world and how it functions. In your own words, how would you describe what it is that is motivating you to travel to a developing country and share something tangible with others?

Mercy Tech Mission is a Christian faith-based organization, meaning that we believe in God and that the work we do among the poor and needy is a practical expression of our Creator’s love for this world. Does this cause any issues for you in regards to being a MTM volunteer? _____ If so, please explain:

Should the occasion arise, would you be comfortable attending various church services with your team while on this trip? **Please note:** This does not mean that you would have to actively participate in the local services other than to bring greetings from your family and from Canada. _____

Date and location of mission trip you wish to take part in: _____

Expectations of Short-term Mission Trip Participants

The Team

- Foster a spirit of unity, harmony and cooperation within the team.
- Understand that working in remote areas under extreme or unfamiliar conditions can create tensions in a team environment; therefore determine in advance to show grace and patience as you work through those times with your team.
- Attend all orientation and training meetings where possible.
- Be supportive of the team leader, and respectful of other leadership on the field, including hosting pastors, missionaries, or community leaders.
- Follow the schedule set by the team leader, and do not “go off on your own” without permission.
- If a debriefing session is held when the trip is over, take part with the goal of offering helpful comments to improve the effectiveness of future trips.

The Culture

- Participants may be asked to accept limitations on personal speech, actions, habits and dress in order to enhance the overall effectiveness of the team within the host culture.
- Refrain from using abusive language, consuming alcoholic beverages, using tobacco products or illegal drugs while on the trip.
- Have a good work ethic and understand that you are a role model to those you will be teaching.
- Respect and adapt to other cultures. If unsure about a cultural situation, discuss it with your team and/ or team leader so that the team can remain effective.
- You will be confronted with extreme social needs, so be careful of giving your home contact information to others or developing “assistance relationships” with those you meet, as it may cause difficulties within the local community after you leave. If you feel led to personally help someone in need, discuss it with your team and the hosting group so that the best possible outcome can be achieved.

Fundraising

-Assist with fundraising for the team project. Mercy Tech Mission is dependent on the generosity of its supporters in order to organize its mission trips and carry out its work. Therefore volunteers who are approved for a mission trip will usually be assigned a role to help fundraise for the team project.

Additional trip expectations may be determined based on the needs and the nature of the project. This information will be shared at orientation and pre-trip meetings with your team.

Conclusion

Please understand that filling out this application does not necessarily mean you will be selected for this trip. The next step will be an interview by Mercy Tech Mission personnel. The actual team selection will be made by the MTM board after the various skill sets of the applicants are evaluated in order to build an effective team.

We truly appreciate the interest you have shown in the work of Mercy Tech Mission. Volunteers like you are a key component of what we do, and we believe that together we can make a difference in someone else's life. As one young African put it, "Teaching a young man is teaching the world."

While helping the poor in practical ways is both worthwhile and fulfilling, it does not come without a cost. Taking part in a mission trip of this nature means putting the needs of others before your own needs. It may even mean adapting to a new plan and agenda if circumstances unexpectedly change, so please remain flexible. Our goal is to serve, not to be served.

Your Signature: _____ Date: _____

Other comments:

