



Vision Trip FAQs

At Common Ground Christian Church we believe that, “He who is seated on the throne is making all things new” and He has asked His church to join in this reclaiming of all of creation.

Why do we go?

We go to join with God in what He is doing in the world and to share the love of Christ through what we say and do. Some trips will have project and outreach focuses, but always we go to experience and serve, rather than fix. We desire to broaden our perspective and understanding as we engage with God and His love for people in different nations and cultures.

We hope our Vision Trips have a lasting impact on the people we go to serve, and on our lives as well. In our daily routines and rhythms, we may not always have the time or opportunity to spend extended time with God and pray with a missional focus. Vision trips provide this context, for people not only to go and serve, but to encounter God in a fresh way and dream about ways to impact the world for Christ.

Where do we go?

We currently have 10 trips planned throughout our network of churches for 2014. Information about these trips is posted in the “missions” section of each area church website.

Who can apply?

Vision trips are open to all Common Ground attenders, applicants will be evaluated based upon the purpose of the trip. (completed application includes application and deposit.)

How do I go?

1. For international trips, obtain or renew your passport. Detailed steps for getting your first passport or renewing your passport can be found on the [U.S. Department of State website](#).

(Some countries require your passport to be valid for 6 months from the start of your trip and entry into their country so you need to check your expiration date carefully. If you have a passport that will expire within 6 months following your trip departure date, you will need to renew your passport.)

2. [Download and complete an application](#) and submit your deposit (\$100). The application needs to be submitted with a deposit to be considered complete, and the deposit is non-refundable (except for cases listed in step 3). There are 3 ways to submit your application:

- Electronically- Download the trip application, complete electronically and email to: vision@cground.org. Indicate in your email how/when you will turn in your deposit.
- By Mail- Download the trip application, print off hard copy, complete it neatly by hand and mail your application and deposit to the Common Ground office at the following address:

Attention: Vision Trip
4550 N. Illinois Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208

- Drop off at CG Office – Download the trip application, print off hard copy, complete it neatly by hand and drop off your application and deposit at the Common Ground office at the above address.

3. Your application will be reviewed and a Common Ground staff member will follow up with next steps information. Applicants may be denied if the trip has reached capacity or if it is determined the trip would not be suitable for the applicant.

*If the trip doesn't meet the required number of participants, the trip will be cancelled. In the event of a trip cancellation or if an applicant doesn't get approved for a trip, the deposit will be refunded to applicants. Otherwise deposits are not refundable.

What does it cost?

Vision trip costs range from \$300 - \$3,000. Trip specific costs and additional information can be found on the Vision Trips page for your area church.

Don't let finances keep you from applying or pursuing a trip opportunity. A request form for financial assistance can be accessed on our website, along with suggestions for earning funds and raising support.

Additional Questions

- **Do we have any trips that are kid friendly?**

.We value children participating in Vision Trips and look to expand our opportunities for family participation over the next few years. This year, several of our trips are open to people under the age of 18. Specific age requirements are listed for each trip.

- **Do I need to have special insurance or immunizations to go on a trip?**

For the protection of our trip members and to reduce potential financial risk in the event of an emergency medical need or evacuation, we require that all trip members on international trips consider recommended immunizations and carry international travel insurance throughout the duration of the trip. Common Ground will make the arrangements to provide the team with insurance coverage (at the team's expense) so team members don't have to find coverage on their own. The pricing averages \$35-\$50 per team member, depending on the trip location, age, trip duration, and elected coverage amount. Immunizations are up to each individual and are not included in trip costs.

- **My friend doesn't attend Common Ground, but I want him to go with me. Can he go?**

Since the Vision Trip team sizes are limited, Common Ground members have first priority for trip slots. In the event a team hasn't reached maximum capacity, team members may bring non-Common Ground members, but they will be required to go through the application process.

For more information, send an email to: vision@cgground.org.