



**IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ ALL OF THE DETAILS IN THIS PACKET CAREFULLY**

### **WHAT IS THE STUDENT GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP?**

This trip is designed to help students understand that global missions are about sacrificing normalcy to make a difference in the lives of other people and to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. On this trip, we will develop relationships, build homes, lead Vacation Bible School (VBS), play sports, and hang out with kids, but most importantly, we will tell the people of Comitancillo about Jesus' sacrifice and share God's love.

### **WHY DO WE GO ON THE STUDENT GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP?**

We want to give our students an opportunity to serve globally alongside their peers and leaders within the Student Ministry. SGMT is a great way for high school students to get connected, be empowered, and serve with humility. This trip teaches our students about sacrifice, gratitude, poverty, cultural differences, and divine appointments. On this trip, students are required to hold a high level of responsibility and are, therefore, required to complete an application where participants will be chosen by the Student Ministry staff. For more information about the application process, see "Application and Acceptance" below.

### **DETAILS**

**WHO:** 9th Grade - College Aged Students

**WHERE:** Comitancillo, Guatemala

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 14, 2026 - Saturday, February 21, 2026

**APPLICATION:** All students must complete an application by September 14, 2025

**COST:** \$2,000

### **APPLICATION & ACCEPTANCE**

Each student considering serving on our Student Guatemala Mission Trip must complete a Mission Trip Application found at [thebayouchurch.org/guatemalastudents](http://thebayouchurch.org/guatemalastudents). After the application deadline, September 14, 2025, all applicants will receive an email indicating whether or not their applications have been accepted. 11 students will be selected for this trip based on grade level and maturity level along with other factors. This is an annual trip so if an applicant is not selected for this year, we encourage students to apply for the following year.

**If accepted, each applicant must turn in a \$100 non-refundable deposit.**

The ways that you can submit the deposit are listed below:

- **MAIL** - Cash or check made out to "The Bayou Church" and mailed to The Bayou Church 2234 Kaliste Saloom Rd. Lafayette, LA 70508. Please leave the memo line blank.
- **GENEROSITY BOX** - Cash or check made out to "The Bayou Church" and placed in a generosity box on campus in an envelope with the student's name and "Student Guatemala" written on it.
- **ONLINE** - There are two ways to pay online
  1. Login to your Church Center account and find your Guatemala registration under the "My Registrations" section
  2. Using Church Center, go to the "Give" tab. After entering in the amount, you can select "Mission Trip Fund."

Both of these options can be accessed using [The Church Center Website](#) or [The Church Center App](#).

## TEAM TRAINING DATES

Each team meeting plays an important part in communicating information about the trip, developing a bond as a team, creating and shaping the activities/lessons we will be doing while on the trip, growing leadership skills, and answering questions about the trip. Attendance is required at each meeting. Meeting details are listed here:

|                      |                                                   |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SEPTEMBER 21*</b> | Team Training #1 (2:30-3:15pm in the First Steps) |
| <b>OCTOBER 5</b>     | Team Training #2 (2:30-3:15pm in the First Steps) |
| <b>NOVEMBER 2</b>    | Team Training #3 (2:30-3:15pm in the First Steps) |
| <b>DECEMBER 7</b>    | Team Training #4 (2:30-3:15pm in the First Steps) |
| <b>JANUARY 4</b>     | Team Training #5 (2:30-3:15pm in the First Steps) |
| <b>JANUARY 18</b>    | Team Training #6 (2:30-3:15pm in the First Steps) |
| <b>FEBRUARY 1</b>    | Team Training #7 (2:30-3:15pm in the First Steps) |
| <b>FEBRUARY 12</b>   | Team Dinner (time and location to be determined)  |

*\* At least one Parent/Guardian must attend*

## OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

|                    |                                                        |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>OCTOBER 5</b>   | Deposit due - \$100                                    |
| <b>NOVEMBER 2</b>  | Deadline for passport to be ordered                    |
| <b>DECEMBER 7</b>  | Flight money due - \$1000**                            |
| <b>JANUARY 4</b>   | Copy of passport due to <a href="#">Harley Sagrera</a> |
| <b>JANUARY 18</b>  | Final balance due - \$900                              |
| <b>FEBRUARY 14</b> | Depart from Lafayette Airport                          |
| <b>FEBRUARY 21</b> | Return to Lafayette Airport                            |

*\*\* Based on current air contract*

## COST BREAKDOWN

The total cost of the trip is \$2,000. At this time we have an air contract reserved for \$1010 dependent upon a team of 10 or more passengers with our group. If we have less than 10 team members we will have to search for a new flight contract and the price may increase or decrease. The in-country expenses are \$890 and includes ground transportation, meals, lodging for two nights in a hotel on the front and back end of the trip, and five nights at the mission house. There is also a \$100 ministry fee which covers travel insurance, training materials, and airline baggage fees.

## SUPPORT LETTERS

We will provide each student with an example support letter that they can use to write their own letters to send to family, friends, and local businesses to request spiritual and financial assistance for this trip. Support letters have been used in all of our past missions and generates responsibility in our students as well as creates a humble attitude throughout the trip. Many of our past team members were able to pay for their mission trip in full with the support they received in these letters. We want to encourage you to trust in God's plan for your mission experience by using support letters to help with the cost of the trip.

## CONTRIBUTIONS

Our mission trips qualify as charitable travel, therefore, all contributions that are given to this mission trip are considered a tax-deductible contribution to the Make a Difference Fund of The Bayou Church. Anyone who contributes financially to this trip will receive a Contribution Statement at the end of the year listing all donations.

There are no refunds for any contributions. If more funds are raised than are needed for this trip, excess funds will be used for future mission trips. If the trip is canceled or a student is no longer able to go on the trip for any

reason, the funds received from donors will also be used for future mission trips.

## ADDITIONAL COSTS

Passport - \$135-\$165 (Required)

Immunization Shots (Optional)

Spending Money - \$200+ (Optional)

## GENERAL SCHEDULE

We will fly into Guatemala City and then travel to Comitancillo, Comi, a rural town about eight hours from Guatemala City. We will do most of our ministry work in Comi and the surrounding villages called Aldeas. Below is a general schedule of planned activities, however, sometimes God opens up opportunities for things that we didn't originally plan to do and therefore this schedule is subject to change.

|                       |                                               |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>FEBRUARY 14</b>    | Travel and depart from Lafayette              |
| <b>FEBRUARY 15</b>    | Travel, arrival & orientation                 |
| <b>FEBRUARY 16-19</b> | Ministry in Guatemala                         |
| <b>FEBRUARY 20</b>    | Travel & sightseeing in Panajachel or Antigua |
| <b>FEBRUARY 21</b>    | Travel and return to Lafayette                |

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Upon acceptance, students will receive a manual at our first meeting on September 21, 2025. Additional information such as rules, packing lists, training materials, trip details, etc. can be found in the Mission Trip Training Manual.

If you have any further questions about the Student Guatemala Mission Trip, please feel free to contact us!

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