



# S.T.O.R.M. Report

Short-Term Outreach, Relief & Missions

From the Office of the Short-Term Missions Coordinator

October 26, 2016

## Focus On: Missionary Associates



***Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry. 2 Tim 4:11 (ESV)***

It's been a blessing to see how God can use short-term missions to lead people on to further service as Missionary Associates! OP mission fields in Asia, Czech Republic, Haiti, Japan, Quebec, Uganda, and Uruguay have all welcomed MA's who were introduced to missions through short-term missions.

Every S.T.O.R.M. Report includes an update on Missionary Associate (MA) openings. This month we focus on those openings, which include a **November 1st deadline** for applicants who may be interested in serving in Asia starting in February 2017. If you have contemplated service as a Missionary Associate but need to know a little more about it, we are taking this opportunity to provide some details for you.

**The objectives of Missionary Associate service are:**

- to assist a foreign Mission in its evangelistic outreach and other tasks
- to test an individual's gifts for long-term service as a foreign missionary
- to enrich the MA's life for greater service as a member of their local church

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## Focus On: Missionary Associates (continued)

### Basic requirements for service as an MA are:

- communicant membership in good standing in an OP church or church of like faith and practice
- personal doctrinal convictions that align with Reformed theology
- availability to commit to at least three months, though preferably one or two years, of service

### Specific duties of the MA are:

- determined by the Mission according to its needs, the cultural situation, and the gifts of the MA

### The MA application procedure includes:

- completion of forms required by the Committee on Foreign Missions
- assessment of the applicant's training and experience to determine if he or she is qualified for the tasks assigned by the Mission
- approval by the Candidates Committee in consultation with the Mission
- potential field-specific requirements

## Focus On: Missionary Associates (continued)

### Upon acceptance as an MA the candidate will be encouraged to:

- begin working through a suggested reading list for field orientation
- spend the first month or two on the field in concentrated language study

### On the field, the MA will:

- be expected to accept the authority and direction of the Mission
- report on his or her work at each regular meeting of the Mission

### Financial considerations for the MA:

- the Committee on Foreign Missions does not provide salary, housing, fringe benefits, or travel funds for the MA
- the Committee and the Mission will help the MA develop a personal budget

### The Mission helps the MA by:

- making arrangements for language study
- helping to find housing
- providing orientation to the culture and history of the country, the status of Christianity in that area, and the current work of the Mission
- supervising the MA's work on the field
- providing fellowship with the Mission families

### Contact:

All inquiries regarding MA service may be directed to Rev. Douglas Clawson, Associate General Secretary of the Committee on Foreign Missions, at:

- [Douglas.Clawson@opc.org](mailto:Douglas.Clawson@opc.org)  
215-935-1010 (office)

## Missionary Associate Openings

There are currently openings for Missionary Associates in Asia, Quebec, Uganda, and Uruguay.

For all the details, read the Full Email edition of this report:

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