



Youth Mission Trip Policy

Purpose

Liberty Christian Church's Family Ministry's mission is: We partner with families to "go and make disciples" (Matthew 28:19) as God has called us to do by loving one another, serving one another, and sharing the gospel with one another.

With this mission in mind, LCC is committed to providing a meaningful mission experience in which middle and high schoolers can serve others, grow in their faith, and understand their call to "go and make disciples".

This policy establishes expectations and procedures for youth mission trips sponsored and supported by LCC.

Scope

This policy applies to:

1. All youth participating in a LCC sponsored mission trip
2. Adult mission trip leaders
3. LCC staff participating in the trip
4. Parents/guardians participating as adult participants
5. Volunteers and other adults accompanying the group

Eligibility and Participation Guidelines

In order to be eligible, a youth must:

1. Meet the age/grade requirements established for the mission trip.
2. Regularly and actively participate in LCC's youth ministry during the ministry year.
 - a. Regular and active participation means that you attend and participate in Sunday School or Youth Group at least two times per month during the ministry year.
3. Participate in additional church, youth, mission, or service opportunities during the ministry year.
 - a. These include: Rebuilding Together KC, CROP Walk, Easter Sunrise Breakfast, Johnny's Cafe, etc.
4. Participate in all scheduled fundraisers for the mission trip.
5. Complete all required registration and permission forms by the stated deadline.
6. Attend all required pre-trip meetings or training sessions.
7. Agree to follow the Youth Mission Trip Covenant.
8. Demonstrate behavior that allows them to safely participate in the trip.

Regular participation does not mean perfect attendance. We recognize that youth have school, sports, family, employment, and other commitments. Eligibility will be considered in light of the youth's overall involvement and circumstances.

Participation may be denied if a youth's behavior, medical needs, or other circumstances create a significant safety concern that cannot be reasonably accommodated.

Leadership & Supervision

Adult leaders play a critical role in ensuring the safety, spiritual growth, and overall success of the

mission trip.

The Family Life Minister will serve as the designated Trip Leader.

In addition to the Trip Leader, Adult Leaders will be selected by the appropriate church staff and/or ministry leadership according to the needs of the trip.

An appropriate adult-to-youth ration for all youth mission trips will be maintained, taking into consideration the number and ages of participants, activities, transportation, lodging, location, and specific safety considerations. For overnight and out-of-town mission trips, the following adult:youth participants will be maintained:

- 1 Female Adult: 5 Female Youth
- 1 Male Adult: 5 Male Youth

All adults, whether serving as an Adult Leader or Parent Participant must be Safe Spaces certified.

The Family Life Minister may increase the number of adult leaders when necessary to provide appropriate supervision and ensure the safety and well-being of all participants.

Cost and Financial Assistance

LCC recognizes that mission trips involve significant expenses including transportation, lodging, meals, program fees, supplies, and other trip-related costs.

A participant fee will be established for each mission trip based on the anticipated cost of the trip and the financial support provided by the church.

LCC will seek to subsidize a meaningful portion of the cost of youth mission trips through the church budget, designated gifts, donations, and fundraising opportunities. **Participation in fundraising does not determine a youth's eligibility to attend the mission trip.**

Participants and their families are expected to contribute toward the cost of the trip through the established participant fee. The amount may vary from year to year depending on the destination, length of the trip, transportation, lodging, and other expenses.

No youth should be prevented from participating because of the cost. Families needing assistance with the cost of the mission trip are encouraged to speak privately with the Family Life Minister. Financial assistance may be available based upon resources of the church. All requests for financial assistance will be handled confidentially.

All youth planning to attend the mission trip must turn in their registration and deposit by the established deadline. This helps establish an accurate participant count for mission trip planning. This deposit will go towards the total cost of the mission trip. This deposit is non-refundable if you decide at a later date to not go on the mission trip. If you have to back out due to reasons outside of your control, please talk to the Family Life Minister.