

So you want to lead a Chi Alpha International Expedition...

- ✓ **Leading:** Team leaders must be approved by their campus pastor/primary leader and the national office. Many times the team leader is the campus pastor. All team members must be approved by the campus pastor and go through the application process. The application process is outlined below.
- ✓ **Where:** Decide on an area, region or people group that you feel led to serve. Don't just pick the most convenient, or the vacation spot, pray and ask the Lord where it would be best for you to travel and take a team. If you don't feel like you have a leading contact the XA Expeditions office and we'll provide you with a list of the most immediate need. These are requests from AG missionaries who are asking for Chi Alpha Teams. We also ask that you make a 5 year commitment there and continue to go there and work with those missionaries for 5 years.
- ✓ **Contact:** After you have an idea where you'd like to travel contact the XA Expeditions office. We'll put you in contact with an AG Missionary who will host your team. We do our best to accommodate your requests and if we cannot accommodate the request we'll get you as close as possible. **Please plan for this, it may take one day or up to 2 months for the missionary to receive communication and get back to us based on their location and area of service.**
- ✓ **Host Missionary:** After we make contact and connect you with a host missionary they will help you to prepare for your expedition and leading the team. Ask your Host Missionary:
 - **To write a short letter of invitation and email it to you.**
 - How many people would you prefer to have on the team?
 - What is the cost per day? Average plane ticket? Visa? Misc. expenses?
 - How should we obtain our visa?
 - What climate, weather conditions, should we plan for?
 - What clothing would be best for what we're going to be doing?
 - What is the culture like? Religion, social setting, food?
 - What are the do's and don'ts? (hand gestures, visible tattoos, make up, etc.)
 - How should we bring/access funds for the group?
 - Is this considered a sensitive country? If so, what should we expect?
 - What about communication with the states? Email? Facebook? Myspace? Etc.
 - What airport should we fly into?
 - Should we register with the embassy? Get immunizations?
 - What types of ministry are we going to be doing? Do we need to bring anything to adequately fulfill those responsibilities?
 - Ask them if there is anything else that they think you should know for the planning moment. Your host missionary may have a list for you as well.
- ✓ **Application Process:** After you have made contact with your host missionary you need to follow the application process. You can retrieve the applications by emailing go@XAexpeditions.com **Every person** in the group must **completely** fill out their application, including the team leader. In addition to having an applications filled out, the team leader needs to complete the Team Sheet. When you mail it you'll put it on top of the stack of applications. There is a **\$25 application fee** for each application, please plan this

into your trip expenses. Every overseas traveler is required to carry our insurance. The cost is **\$3.00 per person per day** including the day you leave and the day you return. When sending the funds, please send **one check** for the entire team, in the memo line specify the amount for insurance and the amount for applications. **You can also pay with a credit card by calling the office and providing us with your charging information.** Please make sure to send all the paperwork and fees together as a group. Send everything to the office at least **6 weeks in advance**. Email before mailing and I'll verify that you have everything ready! Everyone must get approved and that takes time!

When mailing, this is what should be enclosed:

- **Team Sheet**
 - **A registration for each participant**
 - **Model Release for each participant**
 - **Letter of invitation from your host missionary (can be emailed)**
 - **One check for the entire team or Call the office and provide your card information.**
 - **I need you to mail a copy of all passports before you get on the plane (You do not need to wait for them to all arrive before you send the packet, send the packet and then send the passports separately after you have all of them).**
- ✓ **What happens now?** The XA Expeditions office will process your applications and insurance. When your insurance has been processed you will receive an email with two information sheets. The team leader should **print those and take** them on the expedition. The application itself takes a little time to go through three office approval processes. After the XA Expeditions office receives a hard copy of the approval, the team leader will receive a confirmation email that the team has been approved. (This is a much easier and smoother process than it sounds.)
- ✓ **Airplane Tickets, Passports, Visas:** Each team is responsible to book their own flights and secure their own passports and visas. Your host missionary may be able to answer questions regarding specific airlines, or airports to navigate.
- ✓ **Preparing:** Before going on your expedition we want you to do some preliminary preparation. **Take time to invest in Fasting and Prayer:** for wisdom, spiritual guidance, health, divine appointments, for each team member, your host missionary and family, travel mercies, increased faith, a move of God, spiritual hindrances, anything your host missionary asks you to pray about as well as specific leading from the Lord.
- ✓ **Expectations:** When going to the field, not only do participants and leaders represent themselves but they represent Jesus and the Chi Alpha and World Missions offices as well. We ask that all participants act accordingly. Below is a list of a few things that need to be talked through as a team prior to departure. Please review the list and if you have any questions feel free to contact the XA Expeditions office.
- What do I do when a new and interesting food is presented to me?
 - How can I seek to bless my host missionary and family? What can we bring them?
 - When something isn't the way I like it, how do I yield?
 - How can I be flexible when plans change?
 - How to go with an "It's not about me" spirit.
 - No complaining

- Be willing to do whatever your told.
- Teaching on 1 Corinthians 10:1-13
- Have a great attitude and be ready to see God do great things!

✓ Training Your Team

- If you have training materials either acquired or assigned from your host missionary excellent! If you need some reading or training materials specific to your region, email our office and we will be happy get some recommendations for you.
- Feel free to contact our office if you would like to schedule a team training skype call. Expeditions Mobile can also be scheduled for team training.
- (Send additional questions to go@XAexpeditions.com)