

Rockhurst University Service-Immersion Trips
2014-2015

Thank you for your interest in Rockhurst's Service-Immersion Trips. The below information will hopefully help you to arrive at a better understanding of our trips, the application/selection process, and important dates.

Trip Sites:

Christmas Break:

1. Nicaragua
Dates: Saturday, January 3 – Saturday, January 10
Type of work: Construction, water/sanitation projects
2. Philadelphia
Dates: Saturday, January 3 – Saturday, January 10
Type of work: Homeless ministry, ministry to the dying, inner-city schools

Spring Break:

1. Dominican Republic
Dates: Saturday, March 14 - Saturday, March 21
Type of work: Construction, coffee planting
Note: at this site, students stay with host families
2. Guatemala
Dates: Saturday, March 14 - Saturday, March 21
Type of work: Construction, coffee, gardening
3. Jamaica
Dates: Saturday, March 14 - Saturday, March 21
Types of work: Ministry to the elderly, homeless, people with Leprosy
4. Nicaragua
Dates: Saturday, March 14 - Saturday, March 21
Type of work: Construction, water/sanitation projects
3. West Virginia
Dates: Sunday, March 15 - Saturday, March 21
Type of work: community garden, clothes closet, community outreach, day care

Prayer and Reflection: as a Jesuit University, prayer/reflection is an integral aspect of our service-immersion trips.

Pre-Trip Reflection

- One large group service trip gathering
- Two to three small group meetings with each travel group

Mid-Trip Reflection

- Morning prayer
- Evening reflection

Post-Trip Reflection

- One large group service trip gathering
- One small group trip reunion

Student Leader Positions:

- Prayer and Reflection: Students in this position will lead nightly reflection during the trips and will organize other students to lead morning prayer during the trip.

Consider Applying for This Position If:

- You have retreat, CLC, camp counselor, or youth group experience.
- You are a fan of Ignatian Spirituality!

- You respect people of any or no religion/faith tradition
- Video: Students in this position will make a video (using photos, video, music) using pictures and videos from all the trips for use on the Rockhurst website and at meetings to promote the trips.

Consider Applying for This Position If:

- You are a Jedi Master at making videos
 - You have a passion for bringing service experiences alive.
 - You want to honor the people with whom we lived and served during the trip.
 - You desire to build the Rockhurst community
- FOSA: Students in this position will present their service-immersion trip experience at the Festival of Student Achievement, April 21, 2015. Mediums for the presentation could include:

- ☐ Art
- ☐ Essay
- ☐ Film
- ☐ Music
- ☐ Photography
- ☐ Poem
- ☐ Poster
- ☐ Spoken word
- ☐ Theater
- ☐ Other: _____

Consider Applying for This Position If:

- You possess skills in the above-listed areas.
- You desire to share joyful and the somber aspects of your experience with the Rockhurst community, as articulated in the trip's desired learning outcomes.
- You want to honor the people with whom we lived and served during the trip.

Application process:

1. Access the application at Campus Ministry's website.
2. Discern what you want to say in your essay, for what student leader position (if any) you would like to apply, your trip rankings, etc.
3. Complete the application.
4. Proceed to Susan Janet's desk (Massman 1) to sign up for an interview.

Dates:

- **Application/Interview Sign-Up Due Date:** Friday, October 3rd
- **Interview Dates:** October 13—17
- **Notification Date:** October 31

Evaluation process: all full-time (both fall and spring semester) Rockhurst Students are eligible to apply for the service trips. The following criteria are used to evaluate/rank applicants:

- University discipline file
- University accounts
- Quality of application essay

- Academics
- Interview attendance, tardiness, quality
- Seniority
- Spanish-speaking (site-dependent)
- First-timers vs. returners
- Diversity
 - Gender
 - Year at Rockhurst
 - Etc.

Student Cost

Domestic: \$400

International: \$800

- Shots
- Passport

Fee Schedule

Christmas Break Trips

- November 3: non-refundable \$200 deposit due
- December 5: non-refundable balance due

Spring Break Trips

- December 5: non-refundable \$200 deposit due
- February 13: non-refundable balance due

Scholarship: All students who are accepted to a service trip receive a scholarship in the sense that Rockhurst University pays for approximately half of all students' expenses. No other scholarships are available.

Discernment: Service-Immersion Trips cost Rockhurst University more than \$100,000 each year.

This money, if simply sent as a donation, could do much good in Central America and in depressed areas of our own country. As you discern your application to the trips, please ask yourself: **what will I do, especially after my trip, to ensure that the money spent on sending me on a service-immersion trip will serve the poor better than simply sending the money down as a donation?**

Questions: If you have any questions, please contact Bill Kriege (bill.kriege@rockhurst.edu, 816.501.4855).