

Due Diligence Recommendations for Users of BCM Life Missions

A successful volunteer missions experience is largely dependent on clear expectations communicated and understood from the beginning of the process. BCM Life Missions does not screen or assign any volunteers and does not act as an intermediary between ministries and volunteers. It is recommended that requesting ministries thoroughly screen any volunteers to be certain they are well qualified for the opportunity according to the ministries' requirements and rules. Likewise, it is recommended that all volunteers learn as much as possible about the ministry where they intend to volunteer and about the work for which they are volunteering. Below are some suggestions of due diligence for requesting ministries and for volunteers.

Recommended steps of due diligence for requesting ministries

Once contacted by an interested volunteer:

- Have at least 2-3 conversations, including an interview, with volunteer prior to term of service.
- Ask volunteer for a basic application (sample is available from BCM Life Missions Coordinator) and references.
- Ask volunteer for background check.
- Consider running a Motor Vehicle Report for volunteer.
- Have a child protection policy and confirm that volunteer complies with all requirements.
- Provide a certificate of liability insurance if requested.
- Provide a copy of Worker's Comp policy, if volunteer will be an employee.

Recommended steps of due diligence for volunteers:

Contact supervisor(s) directly to ask supervisor for full job description, including all financial requirements.

Complete application, if requested by supervisor.

Some questions to ask during exploratory process:

- How much money will I need to bring with me for housing, food, local travel, ministry expenses, other?
- Will I be paid for serving?
- Who will be my supervisor and how often will I meet with that person?
- What will the housing arrangement be? (Where will I live and with whom?)
- Who will meet me at the airport when I arrive?
- Are the dates flexible?
- If I can not serve the entire term, is that a problem?
- Will I be allowed to return home or take any other personal trips (weddings, etc.) during my term of service?
- Do you have liability insurance?
- Do you have a Worker's Comp policy (if receiving a salary)?

Make your travel arrangements to comply with the dates of service and requested arrival/departure times.

Secure mission volunteer insurance.