

Planting Hope
PO Box 56, Montpelier VT 05601



Terms and Conditions for Long Term Volunteers in Nicaragua

Upon acceptance into a Planting Hope program you will receive copies of our Terms and Conditions and a Registration Form. Please keep these terms for your own reference. Your participation in Planting Hope’s long-term volunteer program will be confirmed when we have received

- A signed copy of the Registration Form indicating that you accept the Planting Hope Terms and Conditions
- A deposit of \$300 to cover the initial program expenses

Payment Policy

Planting Hope Gap-Yr Programs -- Expense Breakdown		
First Month Expense	total Exp	Comments
Airport taxi	\$ 150	\$75 each way
Homestay	\$ 450	Per month, inc. 3 meals per day
Transportation/Lunches	\$ 50	within Nicaragua
On-site Coordinator salary (Nicaragua)	\$ 400	Monthly
Planting Hope admin. Fee	\$ 200	Monthly
Insurance / emergency fund	\$ 200	(in case of emergency- donated if unused)
Supplies / Misc	\$ 50	For special project supplies
Total Fee First Month *	\$ 1,500	
Each Additional Month	total Exp	Comments
Airport taxi	\$ -	
Homestay	\$ 450	Per month, inc. 3 meals per day
Transportation/Lunches	\$ 50	within Nicaragua
Coordinator Salary	\$ 400	Monthly
Planting Hope admin.	\$ 200	Monthly
Insurance / emergency fund	\$ ---	pending usage in previous month
Supplies / Misc	\$ 50	For special project supplies
Additional Month(s) Fee *	\$1,150	
We recommend you purchase ISIC Student Travel Insurance	Additional \$25	(not included in Planting Hope fees)

* Fee for less than a one month stay available upon request.

** Vacation package available for an additional fee.

Airline Reservations

It is the responsibility of the long-term volunteer and his/her family to reserve and buy round-trip tickets to Nicaragua at least a month in advance of the trip. Airfare is not included in the fee schedule.

Payment schedule.

Full payment for all programs is due 6 weeks prior to departure date, unless another payment plan has been established.

All program forms are due 60 days prior to the scheduled departure date. If forms are not received within 10 days of departure date, this will be considered notification of cancellation by default.

Included in the Program Fee

- Pre-departure team meetings, information and support
- Basic, comfortable and clean home-stay or double occupancy accommodations
- Ground transportation relevant to service activities
- Local, attentive guides and program staff
- A welcoming host family and community

Not Included in the Program Fee

- Passport fees, visa fees (\$10 for US citizens), necessary photos
- Vaccinations and immunizations
- International flights
- Domestic flights
- Airport departure taxes
- Medical and hospital care or evacuation costs
- Meals in the airports to and from Nicaragua
- Additional drinks or snacks
- Liquor/alcohol
- Telephone, email or other personal communication charges
- Optional excursions and activities, including transportation
- Baggage charges
- Personal items and incidentals
- Hotel or meal costs to or from airport in case of delayed or cancelled flights

Itineraries and Trip Information

Due to currency fluctuations, rising costs and changing travel conditions overseas, Planting Hope Inc. reserves the right to modify the price and itinerary if deemed necessary. We reserve the right to alter itineraries if that will enhance the experience of our travelers or if unforeseen circumstances force us to do so.

Cancellations and Refunds

Cancellation by participant

Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended.

If you have to cancel your trip for any reason, Planting Hope, Inc, must be notified in writing or by email immediately. The cancellation will be effective upon receipt of the written request in the Planting Hope, Inc, office at 1 Granite Street, Montpelier, Vermont.

The program deposit is non-refundable. If tickets have been purchased, the cost of airfare is nonrefundable. The traveler must negotiate with the ticket issuer for airline credit and change fees will apply.

If the cancellation occurs more than 61 days prior to the scheduled departure date, the total program fee paid to date, less the deposit, will be refunded.

If the cancellation occurs 60 days or less prior to the scheduled departure date, on or after the scheduled departure date, no portion of the program fee will be refunded. No refunds will be made for unused portions of the program or because of the participant's failure or inability to participate in the Planting Hope, Inc, program. The trip participant is solely responsible for airfare or other travel fees, charges, expenses or penalties, that might result from a cancellation of or change in program, whether the participant cancels or makes the change or if the trip is cancelled or altered by Planting Hope, Inc,

Travel arrangements through Planting Hope, Inc, are purchased as a package, and therefore we regret that there can be no refunds on unused hotel rooms, meals, sightseeing, ground transportation or other services booked.

If a participant has to cancel because of illness, injury, personal crisis or death of the participant or a family member 90% of their refundable paid fee will be reimbursed.

Illness or injury of the participant or family member.

Injury or illness must be so disabling as to reasonably cause a trip to be cancelled or interrupted, or which results in medically imposed restrictions, as certified by a Physician at the time of loss, preventing continued participation in the trip. A Physician must advise cancellation of the trip on or before the Scheduled Departure Date. Trip participants need to provide Planting Hope with a physician's letter regarding canceling travel.

If the trip participant must cancel or interrupt his/her trip due to Injury or Illness of a Family Member not traveling with the trip participant, it must be because their condition is life-threatening, as certified by a Physician or because they require the trip participant's care.

Cancellations by Planting Hope Inc.

If we are forced to cancel a tour or volunteer placement due to conditions beyond our control, our liability is limited solely to the program fee. Planting Hope Inc. cannot be held responsible for financial losses incurred due to the imposition of a charge by airline carriers on partially or totally non-refundable tickets. It is our sincerest desire to operate all trips offered on our website; consequently cancellations by us are a matter of last resort, usually at 30 days prior to departure dates. Refunds limited to the above conditions apply.

Planting Hope Inc. reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to reject an individual at any time prior to departure, or to cancel the Planting Hope Inc. program in which the participant is scheduled to participate.

In the unlikely event of such a cancellation, or if the participant has been rejected, the total program fee paid to Planting Hope Inc. will be refunded, unless the cancellation is due to non-payment by the agreed upon due date. Other than such a refund, Planting Hope Inc. will not be responsible to the participant for any other refund, costs, interest, liability, or damages of any kind.

Planting Hope Inc. also reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to remove from a program, at the participant's own expense, anyone whose behavior is such that it would create hazard to him or herself or others, or otherwise impact the enjoyment of the other tour travelers, the guides, host families and/or host communities.

Insurance

Participants should consider purchasing insurance to cover the cost of air fare in case of trip cancellation.

Planting Hope expects each traveler to have their own travel insurance for health and medical emergencies. Purchase of travel insurance is not mandatory for adults but we strongly suggest that you do so. It is advisable to check your current health insurance policy for its overseas applications. Youth traveling without a family member or guardian must be covered by international travel insurance. The trip information packet will provide further information. Longer-term volunteers (one month or more) will pay an additional \$200 to Planting Hope, as an emergency reserve to be refunded if unused.

Age Restrictions

Participation in Planting Hope programs is determined by interest and ability to fully participate in the experience. The minimum age for program participation is 15 as of the departure date. Children younger than 15 are welcome as long as they are accompanied by a responsible adult.

Passports and Visas

A valid passport is required for international travel with an expiry date of at least six months after the airline ticket return date. All clients are responsible for obtaining their own visas, which are available at the immigration section of the airport upon arrival. A 3-month tourist visa is mandatory and available for \$10 US for travelers with US passports. The visa application will be given to you on the plane before landing in Managua.

Photos taken on Tour

Planting Hope Inc. reserves the right to take photographs or video during the operation of any trip or part thereof, and to use the resulting images or video for promotional purposes. By participating in a Planting Hope program or Service Learning trip, you agree to allow your image to be used for such purposes, without compensation. If you prefer that your image not be used, you must identify yourself to the leader at the beginning of the tour. This does not apply to photographs that you or other travelers take on the tour.

Medical Requirements

Good physical and mental health is essential for the enjoyment of Planting Hope Service Learning trips or programs. By forwarding the Registration Form, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any physical or other condition of disability that would create hazard for him or herself or other travelers.

It is essential that any participant with a medical condition requiring regular treatment or which may be affected by rigorous activity, altitude, smog, heat, cold, etc., notify Planting Hope Inc. in writing in advance of travel. Medical insurance is mandatory for these participants. The judgment of the local guide shall make the ultimate determination of an individual's fitness to embark upon or continue the program. Planting Hope Inc. reserves the right to decline to accept anyone on the trip. Planting Hope Inc. also reserves the right to remove from the trip, at the participant's own expense, anyone whose condition is such that it would create hazard to him or herself or others, or otherwise impact the enjoyment of other passengers on the trip as well as the guides, trainers, host families and/or host communities.

Responsibility

Planting Hope Inc. acts only as the agent for the passenger in regard to travel whether by railroad, motor-coach, private car or van, bicycle, boat, ferry, aircraft or any other conveyance, and assumes no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, irregularity or additional costs resulting directly or indirectly from any of the following causes: weather, failure of any means of transportation to comply with schedules, quarantines, strikes, civil disturbances, theft, government regulations or changes in transport or lodging beyond the reasonable control of Planting Hope Inc. Planting Hope and its Board

of Directors and employees cannot be liable for any delay, mishap, inconvenience, expense, irregularity, or damage through the negligence or default of any company or individual engaged in providing these services.

We reserve the right to change any itinerary at any time when it is deemed advisable for the safety of the volunteer or to comply with governmental restrictions. Planting Hope Inc. also reserves the right to cancel any trip prior to departure upon the refund of all program payments received, which shall release Planting Hope Inc. from any further liability.

It is the responsibility of every traveler to be informed about the most current travel advisories. Please check the US Department of State's travel website: <http://www.travel.state.gov/> or call 1-888-407-4747. The traveler assumes all risk of personal injury, death or property damage that may arise out of events like those advised or warned against.

Planting Hope Inc. reserves the right to withdraw a program or any part of it, to make such alterations in the itinerary or with the trip inclusions as it deems necessary or desirable and to pass on to trip participants any expenditures or losses caused by delays or events out of its control.

Planting Hope Volunteer Registration Form for Internship Program

Today's Date _____ Dates of Volunteer Stay _____

Name as it appears on your passport _____

Passport Number: _____ Country of Passport _____

I have included a deposit for \$ _____

I understand that I will be billed for the balance or the trip fee and airfare (if applicable)

Please read the Terms and Conditions carefully. Each participant must complete and sign this Registration Form. All payments held by Planting Hope are protected in an account until departure.

Release and Assumption of Risk

I have read and understand the Terms and Conditions. I am aware that during the trip in which I am participating, under the arrangement of Planting Hope. and their agents and associates, certain risks and dangers may occur, including but not limited to the hazards of traveling in challenging climactic conditions, illness in remote places without medical facilities, forces of nature, crime and travel by air, boat, train, bicycle or other means of transportation. In consideration of, and as part payment for the right to participate in said activities arranged by Planting Hope, I hereby assume all of the above risks, and hold Planting Hope. harmless from any and all liability, actions, causes of action and claims, debts and demands of every kind and nature whatsoever, which I have or which may arise in connection with my trip or in connection with any services arranged for me by Planting Hope, their agents or associates. The terms hereof shall serve as release and assumption of risk for my heirs, administrators and executors for all members of my family, including any minor accompanying me. I have also read and agree to all of the terms and conditions accompanying this form.

Participant Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Date

Medical Care and Treatment Form

Name: _____ Birth Date: _____ Age: _____ Passport # _____

Contact Person in US: _____ E-mail Address(es) _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

Home Address: _____

US Health Insurance Company: _____ Policy #: _____ Phone # _____

International Insurance Company: _____ Policy #: _____ Phone # _____

Emergency Contacts (In the event above US contact cannot be reached.

1) Name: _____ E-mail _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

2) Name: _____ E-mail _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

Name of Family Doctor: _____ Phone: _____

Are there any specific or general medical issues to be aware of while you are in Nicaragua? (Please use a separate sheet if more room is needed.)

Please list any allergies to food, medication, environment, insects, etc..?

Any prescription or non-prescription medications you will be taking during the trip?

In the event of illness or accident, I understand that Planting Hope Inc. will make every effort to reach contact person, but I give my permission for emergency medical treatment as required if such notification is impossible or impractical under the circumstances. I understand that Planting Hope Inc. will make every effort to minimize the risks inherent, but that it cannot guarantee against circumstances over which it has little or no control.

I give permission to the Planting Hope Executive Director or the Planting Hope in-country Volunteer Coordinator in concert with trip chaperons and Planting Hope staff, to secure proper treatment for me. I will assume all financial obligations incurred if not covered by insurance. I understand that Planting Hope does not provide travel insurance and that I may purchase it.

Participant Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date