



Application and Agreement for Expedition Deposit Form – Release and Waiver

Expedition Destination

Rendezvous Date

Each participant must complete an application and sign the individual agreement below. You must review, complete, sign, and return this Agreement **with the appropriate deposit** before being accepted to an expedition. You must be 18 years or older, unless accompanied by an adult. By submitting this document, you agree to the terms, conditions, and policies listed below and on the additional pages to this Agreement.

applicant name as on passport	passport no.	expiration	citizenship	employer or school	age	birth	t-shirt size
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permanent home / family address city state zip code

home phone w/ area code fax w/ area code e-mail address (required)

professional skills / hobbies which may be helpful (please list names)

language skills which may be helpful (please list names)

contact in case of emergency: person's name / phone

physician's name / phone

This is a binding agreement – please read entire document carefully before checking the “I Agree” box below.

CHOICE Expeditions

CHOICE Humanitarian facilitates volunteer service expeditions in rural villages across the globe. CHOICE Expeditions allow participants to travel the world and work hand in hand with motivated villagers on various projects. We invite you to experience this unforgettable inter-cultural exchange as we venture into stunning landscapes and gracious communities. Our life-changing expeditions combine the thrills of adventure with the rewards of service. Join us as we build people, not just projects!

Expectations

CHOICE Expedition participants will face unique circumstances abroad that will challenge, educate, and enlighten all those involved. You will venture along rugged dirt roads – or endure scenic hikes - before arriving at each village. While working and living among these developing communities, you will be treated as a welcomed guest, participating in various activities and chores that often reflect the simple things of village life. Participants must expect the unexpected, have a wonderful sense of humor, and be prepared to make friends and memories that will last a lifetime.

*Participants with physical limitations must submit a letter of participation from their doctor.

Tax Deductibility

CHOICE Humanitarian is a non-profit organization as described by section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, the Expedition Fee and travel expenses associated with an expedition can be tax deductible. CHOICE recommends consulting a personal tax advisor regarding the participant's or donor's personal tax situation.

Registration, Deposit, and Expedition Fee

To reserve a space on an expedition, a \$300 deposit is required with submission of the Expedition Application. Once CHOICE receives the deposit and approves the application, the participant will receive additional information about the expedition. The balance of the Expedition Fee is due 60 days prior to departure (unless stated otherwise).

Deposits and other Expedition Fees can be paid via three methods—cash, check, or entering credit card information on the [Donation Page](#) of the CHOICE website.

Personal Costs

The Expedition Fee includes two nights' hotel accommodations, village meals and lodging, local transportation, in-country preparation, certified guides, and all project costs (including materials) to be used both during and following the expedition.

Participants are responsible for airfare and international flight arrangements to the destination. CHOICE Humanitarian can refer participants to specific travel resources for assistance, if so desired. Participants are responsible for all costs associated with international travel arrangements and preparations: passport fees, visa applications, airport taxes, excess baggage, immunizations, evacuation insurance, meals outside the village, and additional side trips planned separate from the expedition itself.

Participants are responsible for those expenses of a personal nature, including but not limited to: phone calls, laundry services, gratuities for special room services, porters, etc.

Hotel accommodations are based on double occupancy. All single participants will be assigned a roommate prior to arriving in the country. If a roommate is not available or if a participant requests a single room, a fee adjustment will be charged prior to departure.

Distribution of Expedition Fee

The bulk of the Expedition Fee is used to support CHOICE Humanitarian projects abroad, including village construction materials, essential supplies, leadership development programs, educational workshops, headquarters support, and post expedition analysis. The remainder of the Expedition Fee is applied to all travel costs associated with hotels, village meals, local transportation, and certified guides.

Fundraising Policy

In the event a participant chooses to fundraise a portion of their expedition fee, the participant will be responsible for tracking the status of their payments to ensure the donated funds will not create an overpayment of the expedition fee. If the participant's account includes an overpayment at the time the full expedition fee is due (60 days prior to departure), it is understood that the difference will be considered a donation to CHOICE and will not be refunded.

All matching contributions from corporations on behalf of participants must be received at CHOICE headquarters no later than 15 days prior to the expedition departure date. CHOICE is aware that some matching fund programs pay only on a quarterly basis. In this case, the participant and CHOICE will mutually agree upon a due date for receiving the matching funds. Notwithstanding this requirement, the participant will be responsible for ensuring that their full expedition fee is paid no later than 60 days prior to the expedition departure date.

Cancellation Policy

Expeditioners may cancel their space or transfer their deposit and payments to another person or a future expedition based on the following schedule:

Over 90 days prior to expedition

The \$300 per person deposit is 100% refundable or transferable.

45-89 days prior to expedition

The \$300 per person deposit less a \$100 service charge is refundable. The \$300 per person deposit is still 100% transferable.

Less than 45 days prior to expedition

All payments are non-refundable, except when cancellation is necessary because of events beyond the control of the participant. All circumstances will be evaluated by CHOICE on an individual basis.

Conditions in developing countries or the inability to completely fill an expedition group may result in the cancellation of an expedition. If CHOICE Humanitarian cancels the trip, the Expedition Fee is fully refundable. If an expedition participant submits a deposit, but later cancels their trip as the result of a subsequent travel warning or public announcement from the U.S. Department of State, then the Expedition Fee paid, minus any expenses already incurred by CHOICE, is fully refundable. CHOICE recommends that all expedition participants purchase travel insurance that will provide proper coverage for such instances.

CHOICE will not make refunds for accommodations or services included in the expedition fee, but not used by the participant.

All payments received from persons on behalf of a participant are refundable upon request from the participant. Donors can choose also to transfer donations to the CHOICE Humanitarian Expedition scholarship fund.

Prior to the Expedition

Required Documentation

To be qualified for an expedition, participants are required to provide the following documentation to CHOICE:

- Expedition Application
- Medical Passport Form
- Confirmation of Medical Evacuation Insurance
- Complete flight itinerary
- Copy of first page of passport

Passport

All expedition participants are required to have a passport that will remain effective for at least six months beyond the expedition return date. Participants will be responsible for carrying and safeguarding their own documentation—e.g., passports, tourist cards, visas, etc.—during the entire expedition.

Visa Application

Participants are responsible for consulting with the appropriate embassy for current information regarding applications and requirements for visas. Obtaining visas can be a lengthy process. CHOICE recommends that participants do not wait until the last minute to submit their visa application. The CHOICE Expedition Coordinator can help with contact information and general questions regarding the application process. Participants are responsible for all fees associated with obtaining visas.

Immunizations and Health

Expedition participants are fully responsible for their health before, during, and after the expedition. They should consult with their personal physician and/or International Travel Office regarding required immunizations. CHOICE Humanitarian suggests starting immunizations long before the scheduled departure date, since several of the required immunizations are multiple dose vaccines. Testing for some diseases may be required after returning home.

Medical Passport

CHOICE Humanitarian encourages a physical check-up before applying for an expedition. CHOICE reserves the right (but is under no obligation) to evaluate health issues of applicants before accepting their application. Any applicant with high blood pressure, heart disease, or any physical impairment is responsible for obtaining prior approval from their physician to participate in an expedition (see [CHOICE Medical Passport](#) form).

Medical Evacuation and Travel Insurance

CHOICE Expeditions take place in rural locations where medical services are often not available. Therefore, CHOICE requires all participants to show proof of **medical evacuation insurance** coverage of at least \$25,000. Evacuation insurance covers emergency transportation (airlifting if necessary) to a hospital or clinic. Most personal insurance policies do not cover evacuation insurance, but generally there are inexpensive temporary policies available. Participants may also want to consider **travel insurance** covering accidents, baggage loss, delays, and unexpected cancellation. CHOICE Humanitarian recommends that participants purchase **trip cancellation insurance** when booking airline tickets.

Unforeseen accidents or illnesses can arise that may require treatment in less than ideal circumstances. CHOICE Humanitarian will do all that is possible to arrange adequate treatment, supplies, or transportation where available. If treatment or other care is provided in the event of an accident or illness, those providing treatment and care do so as "Good Samaritans" and with the expectation that they have no legal or other liability as a result of providing such gratuitous services. Participants are responsible for payment of any costs, fees, or other expenses that may arise as a result of an accident, illness, or other occurrence in the course of travel to and from as well as during participation in the expedition.

Safety during the Expedition

Humanitarian work is often needed in countries with unstable governments. Safety is always a concern when traveling and living in developing countries, the conditions of which may result in circumstances beyond the control of CHOICE Humanitarian. Thus, participants that demonstrate both patience and flexibility tend to enjoy CHOICE Expeditions the most. Even when safety recommendations are followed, accidents, delays, cancellations, acts of terrorism, violence, and crimes may result in loss of property, bodily harm, or even death to participants. Each participant agrees to assume these risks during the expedition.

All participants agree to read an updated [Consular Information Sheet](#) and [Applicable Travel Warnings and Public Announcements](#) from the U.S. Department of State for the country to be visited, both at the time the Expedition Application is submitted and prior to departure on an expedition (click on above links or see <http://travel.state.gov>).

Village Accommodations

Participants of CHOICE Expeditions are considered esteemed guests in each rural village. Participants will sleep in tented encampments, on the cement floor of a schoolhouse, or in the homes of villagers. Accommodations are rustic in nature as permanent bathroom facilities, running water, heating and/or electricity may or may not be available.

Standards of Personal Conduct

All participants are considered ambassadors for their countries and CHOICE Humanitarian. There is a high expectation for participants to respect the reputation of trust and consideration that has been established through years of interaction with villagers and in-country directors. All participants will be expected to maintain high standards of conduct that reflect honor, morality, respect, graciousness, etc. while in the villages and in the countries where CHOICE serves. Participants will be expected to abstain from narcotics of any kind and alcohol intoxication. CHOICE Humanitarian reserves the right to terminate a participant's involvement, without reimbursement, at any point of the expedition if there is failure to comply with these conditions.

Village Interactions

Participants unconditionally agree that all interaction, communication, and work before, during, and after an expedition, with CHOICE villages, villagers, and in-country staff will be done through CHOICE headquarters and in accordance with approved policy and procedure. Participants are responsible to research and understand said policy, especially the procedure for post expedition involvement.

CHOICE Humanitarian expeditions do not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, gender, or ethnic origin. CHOICE Humanitarian is a non-denominational organization and does not allow preaching or proselytizing while on expeditions. Disregard of these policies could negatively impact the non-profit status of CHOICE Humanitarian.

Gifting Policy

CHOICE Humanitarian has a strict “NO GIFTING” policy. Our gift to the villagers is the project—their gift to us is their hospitality.

Limitation of Damages

In the event CHOICE Humanitarian is held liable under any circumstances, participant agrees that such liability will be limited to the participant’s actual expedition costs paid to CHOICE Humanitarian. No third party may rely on this Agreement or recover damages based upon the terms hereunder.

Responsibility & Liability – Release & Waiver

Each participant agrees to release and hold harmless CHOICE Humanitarian and its officers, directors, and employees from all damages, personal injuries, death, and claims arising in connection with an expedition, unless caused by the gross negligence of CHOICE Humanitarian. In the event of cancellations and delays that affect the original itinerary, CHOICE Humanitarian will use reasonable efforts to provide comparable accommodations or services.

The participant unconditionally, knowingly, and voluntarily agrees to waive and release on behalf of himself and his heirs, executors, and insurers any and all claims of any nature whatsoever, whether known or unknown, against CHOICE Humanitarian and its officers, directors, employees, and insurers arising out of any event occurring or alleged to have occurred during an expedition, unless caused by the gross negligence of CHOICE Humanitarian. This release includes, without limitation, all rights or claims arising under any applicable state or federal statute, foreign law, international law, or any common law cause of action, including any claims for attorney’s fees or other costs.

Miscellaneous Provisions

If any provision of this Agreement is determined by a court of law to be illegal or unenforceable, then such provision will be enforced to the maximum extent possible and the other provisions will remain in full force and effect. This Agreement shall be interpreted, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Utah, without regard to its “conflicts of laws” principles. Venue for any legal proceedings concerning this Agreement shall be in the state or federal courts in Salt Lake County, Utah. “Agreement”, as used herein, means the application form, deposit, release and waiver, and all the terms and conditions described in this document. Upon the acceptance of the applicant for an expedition, this document becomes a binding agreement between the parties. The terms “applicant” and “participant” are used interchangeably in this Agreement. The rights and obligations of the participants under this Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and shall be binding upon their heirs, agents, personal representatives, successors, and permitted assigns. The rights and obligations arising under this Agreement cannot be assigned by participant without the prior written consent of CHOICE Humanitarian. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding and agreement between and among the parties and supersedes all prior agreements, representations or understandings between or among the parties, or any of them, relating to the subject matter hereof. Modifications to this form Agreement provided by CHOICE Humanitarian are not binding on CHOICE Humanitarian unless a written amendment is signed by CHOICE Humanitarian and all participants listed on the front page of the Expedition Application, and such written amendment and signatures are attached as an addendum to this Agreement. CHOICE Humanitarian is a DBA of Center for Humanitarian Outreach and Inter-Cultural Exchange, a Utah nonprofit corporation.

Confirmation of Agreement to CHOICE Expedition Terms and Conditions

By checking the box below, I acknowledge that I have read all pages of this Agreement and that I understand them, that I have had an opportunity to consult with legal advisors, that I have reviewed the applicable Consular Information Sheets and applicable travel warnings from the U.S. Department of State, and that I hereby assume the risks associated with travel to and through foreign countries. In consideration of being allowed to participate in this endeavor, I hereby release CHOICE Humanitarian, its employees, directors, agents, expedition leaders, and all others, from all claims, causes of action, damages, costs, fees, or other expenses which may arise directly or indirectly from my participation, except as expressly set forth in this Agreement. I understand that I am solely responsible for securing insurance coverage and other financial arrangements to provide for costs, fees or other expenses that may arise as a result of my participation. I also agree to the prescribed standards of personal conduct and grant full permission for CHOICE Humanitarian to use my image and likeness in all media formats without charge for promotional purposes.

I Agree APPLICANT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME (if participant is under 21 years of age): _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Expedition deposit enclosed \$ _____ (\$300 per person)
If CHOICE Humanitarian cancels the expedition prior to departure, you will be given a full refund.
If you should cancel, please refer to cancellation policies above.



your medical passport

Name: _____

The information you provide here will be helpful to physicians who may take care of you if you become sick while traveling. Carry a copy with you in a safe place and make sure the CHOICE office gets a copy prior to departure. As a reminder, CHOICE expeditions may involve strenuous hiking at high altitudes and dietary changes that may lead to stomach upset and diarrhea.

1. Are you older than 60 or do you have heart disease? No Yes
If so place a recent EKG (heart rhythm) strip here, or better yet get a copy of your most recent 12 lead EKG. Your doctor can give you one.

My EKG of _____ (Date) My diagnosis: _____

2. Do you have lung disease?
 No Yes My diagnosis: _____

3. Any other chronic diseases or conditions? No Yes My diagnosis: _____

If you answered yes to any of the above questions you are required to get a physicians signature and permission to travel!!

As _____ 's physician, I feel in my best judgment it is safe for him/her to travel on an expedition.

M.D.



4. Medications you take regularly:
Drug _____ Strength _____ Amount taken each day _____

5. Medications you take sometimes:
Drug _____ Strength _____ Amount taken each day _____

6. Where do you live? at sea level or at _____ feet altitude

7. Please list the name and phone number of your regular physician in case of an emergency:
My physician: _____ Emergency phone number: _____

8. What is your blood type? _____ (required)

9. Please list any food or medication allergies: _____