

Global Mission Fellows FAQs

General FAQs

Q: Who can apply?

20–30-year-olds from anywhere in the world who want to serve!

Q: Does an applicant need to be part of The United Methodist Church in order to apply?

No. This program is open to all denominations, however all applicants need to agree and abide by United Methodist values for the duration of their service.

Q: What are the requirements?

- Be a Christian between the ages of 20–30.
- Commitment of two years of service.
- Bachelor's degree or equivalent life experience.
- Feel called to address the root causes of injustice.
- Live out the gospel alongside communities and organizations seeking peace and systemic transformation.
- Serve with, not to or for, others.
- English proficiency (International candidates must be able to write, read, and speak English).

Q: What is the Global Mission Fellow International Track and where do they serve?

A 25-month initiative for young adults around the world to serve internationally in another country while engaging with local communities, connecting the church in mission, and growing in personal and social holiness. For young adults between the ages of 20–30 years old, with at least 20 months of international service concluded by 2.5 months of project work, training, and itineration in the Global Mission Fellow's home country. Placement sites have included Nicaragua, Switzerland, Hong Kong, Philippines, and Zambia.

Q: What is the Global Mission Fellow US-2 Track and where do they serve?

A 24-month, United States domestic program for Americans to serve in their home country while engaging with local communities, connecting the church in mission, and growing in personal

and social holiness. For young adults between the ages of 20–30 years old. Placement sites have included locations in Missouri, Wisconsin, Alabama, Washington, Oklahoma, and Michigan.

Q: Do Global Mission Fellows have to speak more than one language?

While knowing more than one language would definitely help, it's not a requirement. Having a working knowledge of English is required for all candidates.

Q: If a person is currently undocumented, may he/she apply to be a Global Mission Fellow US-2?

We are excited to announce that those in the United States who are undocumented and allowed to legally work under the DREAM Act can now apply to the Global Mission Fellow US-2 program. More details to come later on our [website](#) and at [dreamact.info](#).

Q: Can a Global Mission Fellow also be a full-time student?

No. Serving as a Global Mission Fellow is a full-time commitment and any studies would have to be put on hold for the duration of the program.

Q: Are Global Mission Fellows able to request specific sites or organizations to work with?

Space is provided on the application for the applicant's preferences. However, placement depends primarily on placement site availability, assets, and preferences.

Q: What sort of work does a Global Mission Fellow participate in?

Global Mission Fellows integrate faith and justice by learning, walking, and working with communities in their struggles to address systemic injustice and human suffering around the world (i.e., hunger, homelessness, HIV/AIDS, illiteracy, children at risk, conflict resolution, peace, education, environmental justice, imperialism, immigration, substance abuse, racism, domestic violence, and inadequate healthcare). *These positions are **not solely** desk jobs, and are not meant to be mainly administrative in nature. Depending on what your strengths and interests are, Global Ministries will do its best to place you with an organization whose needs compliment your talents.*

Q: Are married couples permitted to serve together as Global Mission Fellows?

Married couples are able to serve as Global Mission Fellows. However, both spouses must apply separately and be accepted on their own merits before moving forward as candidates of the program. Married couples who both get accepted into the program will be placed together. Married couples can also be part of the program even if only one person is accepted as a Global Mission Fellow. Please note that the other person would not receive a stipend or the same programmatic support. *It is recommended that interested married couples be married for at least one year before joining the program.*

Program Details FAQs

Q: What does the interview/acceptance process look like?

- Application: August–March
- Discernment and interviews: November–April
- Notification of acceptance: January–April
- Notification of assignment: February–June
- Training: Three weeks in July
- Placement begins: August–September
- Program ends: Dependent on your program

Q: Is it possible to commit to the 24/25 months initially, and after six, 18, etc., months, leave the program?

We expect those who enter the program to make the full 24/25-month commitment. Voluntary termination has happened in the past and is considered on a case-by-case basis, as it has significant impact on the placement site, the Global Mission Fellow's cohort, Generation Transformation, Global Ministries, and The United Methodist Church.

Q: Are Global Mission Fellows (GMFs) placed with other GMFs in the same city in a community living setting?

Increasingly, GMFs are placed in clusters where there may be another GMF in the same town or city. In particular, many GMF US-2 placements are with *Affiliates*. Affiliates are select United Methodist partner organizations that receive more than one GMF and provide mentorship, support, and supervision for GMFs locally. These Affiliates develop placements where GMFs serve and liaise between GMFs and their work sites. Where there are no Affiliates, the possibility of being placed with another fellow exists; however, this is no guarantee, as placement capacity is related to placement site needs and GMF skill matches. Those interested in being placed with other GMFs are encouraged to apply for the GMF US-2 program (if American), or note this preference on their application.

Q: Are Global Mission Fellows safe while in service?

Yes. Safety of our missionaries is a priority. We do have evacuation parameters in place should a missionary's safety be compromised.

Q: What is a typical work schedule for a Global Mission Fellow?

A total-program workweek of up to 40 hours is anticipated to include time for the Affiliate (placement site) to provide additional mentorship, community building, Bible studies, orientation, and other activities that will support the fellows in their mission experience, in addition to time spent at the work site.

Q: What are living arrangements like for a Global Mission Fellow?

Global Ministries works with placement sites to find safe, affordable housing that is in the community, but not extravagant.

Q: Are Global Mission Fellows allowed to visit home?

A primary goal of the program is to be present among the community. Mobility is a privilege — many people do not have the luxury to travel or leave their situation. Global Mission Fellow International participants will not return to their home country during the duration of international service, unless there is a family emergency.

Q: Are Global Mission Fellows allowed to have people visit them while in service?

Yes. Global Mission Fellows are allowed visitors. This is contingent upon placement site policies, as determined by placement site supervisors. Visitors are encouraged to visit only after the fellow has been at their placement two to three months — this will allow the fellow to settle in and adjust to her/his new ministry context.

Finance FAQs

Q: What type of financial support do Global Mission Fellows receive?

Global Mission Fellows are provided with a “simple living” stipend that varies from place to place. Simple living means living modestly in all forms (food, housing, transportation, and lifestyle). Stipend is country and location specific. Here are some monthly estimates:

United States ≈ \$500 to \$800

Philippines ≈ \$340

Democratic Republic of Congo ≈ \$340

Hong Kong ≈ \$500

Q: Do Global Mission Fellows have to raise money?

Yes. Global Mission Fellows are required to offset some of the program’s cost through fundraising. The requested fundraising amount is often less than 10% of the total cost of funding the fellow’s participation in the program.

Q: Do Global Mission Fellows receive benefits, (health, life etc.)?

Yes. Health insurance, including dental, medical, and vision, is provided by Global Ministries.

Q: How does a Global Mission Fellow on the International Track get a visa to another country?

Obtaining a visa should be handled primarily by the Global Mission Fellow with help from the placement site and Global Ministries. To understand specific visa procedures for the country in which you want to be placed or are eventually placed, it is best to visit the consular or embassy websites, or directly call the consular offices to enquire about the proper procedure. **Please note** that while a visa might not be required for entry in some countries, almost ALL countries require that an application for a long stay visa be submitted for stays lasting longer than three months. If you are selected as a Global Mission Fellow, expect that you will fill out a visa application at some point during the process.

Q: Does Global Ministries cover the cost of the visa fee or a passport?

Global Ministries provides for visa fees, provided the Global Mission Fellow submits a receipt for reimbursement or includes it in their allotted budget for when they arrive at the placement site.

Please note: Global Ministries does not cover costs for choosing to hire a lawyer or a travel agent, nor does Global Ministries cover more expensive visa processes. Global Ministries does not cover passport fees.

Q: Are Global Mission Fellows eligible for the deferment of student loans?

Forbearance and deferment are available for many federally guaranteed student loans. Check with the lending institution administering your loan to confirm eligibility and obtain the appropriate forms, which must be completed by you and Global Ministries.