

# PASSPORTS, VISAS AND IMMUNIZATIONS

## **PASSPORTS >>**

- A. For those team members that already have passports, make sure that the expiration date is later than 6 months from the return date of the trip.
- B. Please ask each member to make three copies of the front page of their passport.
  - i. Leave one copy at your church office.
  - ii. Keep one copy in your suitcase.
  - iii. Give one copy to the team leader to give to your missionary upon arrival.
- C. For team members without passports, make sure you apply as soon as possible. To do this, go to the following Web site and follow instructions to download application.  
[http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport\\_1738.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html)

*Note: If you are obtaining a passport for the first time, you must go in person to a passport acceptance facility such as a U.S. Post Office. You will need to bring the completed application, two passport-sized photographs of yourself, proof of U.S. citizenship (birth certificate) and a valid form of photo identification such as a driver's license.*

## **VISAS >>**

- A. Visas may not be obtained without a passport.
- B. Please, always mark TOURISM as your reason for travel.
- C. To obtain your visa, you may visit Travel Document Systems (TDS) at [www.traveldocs.com](http://www.traveldocs.com) or you can go directly to the embassy's Web site to avoid the TDS fee.
  - i. TDS will hand-carry your passport to the embassy to get the necessary visa stamp. This is an expedited service and TDS charges a fee on top of that of the embassy.
- D. To find the embassy's contact information, select the appropriate country on the TDS home page. Under Travel Conditions, select Embassy/Consulate Address. You will need to follow directions on the Web page and/or call the embassy to find out what information is needed to complete the application process.

## **IMMUNIZATIONS >>**

- A. Visit <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/> to find out which vaccinations are REQUIRED for entry. Also listed by country or region are suggested vaccinations and tips for traveling.
- B. Teams traveling to tropical climates may be required to have a YELLOW FEVER vaccination before entering. Malaria prophylaxis may also be highly recommended. These immunizations may require appointments made weeks in advance.