



系 Christmas
in China

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What is Christmas in China?

Christmas in China is a two week opportunity to share your faith during Christmas break. This Christmas lives will be changed. Maybe even yours.

Requirements

For individuals

Understand the requirements and qualifications:

- have a sense of God's leadership and a desire to work with people of other cultures
- be emotionally and spiritually mature
- already completed high school
- if enrolled in school you should have a 2.0 or higher GPA at the time of application

For teams

Understand the requirements and qualifications for a team leader:

- be 21 years old or older
- be a BCM/BSU director or a current youth/college/student minister at a church
- be willing to work under the supervision of IMB personnel overseas
- have a sense of God's leadership and a desire to work with people of other cultures
- be emotionally and spiritually mature

Costs

As you prepare to serve internationally you may have to trust GOD at a new level and you may have to evaluate your personal finances and stewardship.

The project expenses for CIC are \$550 if you applied before August 1 and \$600 if you applied after August 1. You are also responsible for airfare, visa, and insurance.

Apply/Register

Every assignment has a field supervisor, who will be a career missionary, a local pastor/partner, or a journeyman. Each student will be accountable to a supervisor and to the IMB leadership of the country in which they serve.

Project dates are December 20, 2015 through January 3, 2016.

The application deadline is October 1. However, if you apply before August 1 your project expenses are \$550. If you apply after August 1 your project expenses will be \$600.

For individuals

Select your project preferences.

For the online application, you'll need to gather the email addresses of 4 people (non-relatives) who are willing to serve as references for you (Pastor, Other Minister or Adult Leader, Supervisor/Professor, and Friend).

The application has three components -- an online application, references and a background check. All components must be completed before your application can be reviewed. The background check requires a one-time fee of \$18. You will receive an email explaining how to purchase this background check after you complete your online application.

Visit the Christmas in China "[Apply/Register](#)" page and apply.

For teams

Select your project preferences from the available projects. Visit the Christmas in China "[Apply/Register](#)" page and register your group.

Preparing to Go

Spiritual

Spiritual preparation for a mission project is the most important aspect of preparation for your assignment. Without it, it is likely that you will be unprepared for many of the stressful situations that will arise during your assignment.

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places." Eph 6:12 (ESV)

It's crucial that you ready yourself spiritually so you can stand in the face of attacks that will surely come.

All missionary work begins with prayer. Prayer softens the hearts of people and also helps us be sensitive to God's guidance as He directs us to those who need to hear the good news. Prayer is key to the effectiveness of any assignment.

Resources:

[30 Day Prayer Guide](#)

[Prayer Strategy](#)

[People Groups.org](#)

Travel

STG is the required travel agent for Christmas in China individuals and teams. All CIC participants must use STG so they can coordinate arrivals and departures. The cost of this travel is NOT included in the price on the project request. It is recommended that students begin travel arrangements 3 months prior to the start of their project.

[Email STG](#) or call 205-216-4346.

Passport and Visa:

[Acquiring a passport](#) is the first step in preparation for international travel. Most CIC projects go to a country that requires a visa in order to enter the country. This document, (usually a sticker or stamp in your passport) is obtained through the country's consulate office in the United States. The STG travel agent will help you acquire a visa.

Immunizations:

All students should have completed all their childhood immunizations and have current Tetanus and Hepatitis-A immunizations. Check your project request and the [Center for Disease Control website](#) for recommended and required immunizations for your country.

Insurance:

All students are required to obtain comprehensive insurance through [Gallagher Charitable International Insurance Services](#). This insurance is comprehensive coverage, not just medical insurance, and costs are just a few dollars a day. All students should keep their current U.S. coverage while on the field, but these U.S. policies generally do NOT cover emergency medical care overseas, emergency evacuation, repatriation, etc. Therefore, ALL students are required to obtain this insurance through Gallagher.

The travel agent (STG) can help you purchase this. Otherwise, registration information is given to students when they are assigned to a project. There is a special IMB Students price for this insurance so make sure to

mention you are serving with IMB and have your project# available. Payment is made directly to Gallagher or the travel agent at the time of registration.

Packing:

- Whatever you pack you will likely have to haul up lots of stairs.
- There are a lot of things you can do without.
- If you can't afford to lose it, don't bring it.
- Know the climate and the culture of your destination.

Finances

As you prepare to serve internationally you may have to trust GOD at a new level and you may have to evaluate your personal finances and stewardship. These resources are designed to help you be a good steward of the resources God has given you as you prepare to serve Him.

Students serving with Christmas in China are responsible for all of their expenses. These expenses include passport/visa, immunizations, travel costs, insurance, and cost of living on the field (food, lodging, and in-country transportation).

The project expenses for CIC are \$550 if you applied before August 1 and \$600 if you applied after August 1.

Click [here](#) for imbStudents' fundraising e-guide.

Debriefing

Debriefing helps you understand what God did in and through you during your assignment on the field. Debriefing is a process, not an event. It begins as you near the end of your assignment, and it continues for weeks, months and maybe even years as you continue to live out and apply all that God did in, around and through you. Most likely you will be returning home as a different person, with a different perspective. How do you continue to determine and live out your place in God's plan.

Debriefing triggers the re-entry process. Re-entry can be seen as an end and a beginning...

- an end to a foreign experience, but the beginning of feeling foreign to your own culture
- an end to being stared at, but the beginning of looking at people and the world through different eyes
- an end to simple living, but the beginning of a different lifestyle

- an end to your time in one place, but the continuation of a lifetime of making His glory known among the nations

Click [here](#) for more resources.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who arranges housing and what is the housing like?

The field supervisor is responsible for the living arrangements and all other logistics on the field, unless otherwise noted on the project request or communicated by the field supervisor. General information is included in the project request that you received when you were assigned. You may contact the supervisor directly for answers to specific questions about these logistics.

How can my parents contact me on the field?

The field supervisor can give parents the contact information (email address, mailing address, phone numbers) where the student can be reached throughout their assignment. Parents may be used to daily contact with their student via text, cell phone, and facebook. Please realize that due to the nature of the schedule the student will be keeping, time differences, cell phone coverage, power outages, etc., it will NOT be possible for the student to communicate with parents every day.

Parents: when you do contact your student, please keep in mind the security level of the place where your student is serving. If the security code is 2 or 3, please refrain from using vocabulary which indicates the religious nature of this trip ("missions," "evangelism," "God or Jesus," "church," etc.) when communicating with your student or the field supervisor. In security-sensitive areas, privacy is not highly regarded. Remember, email is like a postcard - it is open for anyone to read. Postal mail is often opened before it arrives to the intended recipient, and phone lines are frequently tapped by government officials. Please be cautious when communicating with your student who is serving in a security 2 or 3 area and ask them to give you the security guidelines they received with their project assignment.

What if there is a family crisis or some other emergency while I am on the field?

In the case of an emergency, parents may contact their student's supervisor directly. If the student is unreachable, the IMB Students team is available to help contact the student and make necessary arrangements. Even if the student is in a place where communication is difficult, we will be able to get in touch with the student on short notice. Call 1-800-999-3113. During business hours (8:30am-5:00pm EST) press 0 and ask for someone on the student team. If it is after business hours, call the same number and follow the instructions for an emergency. Leave your message with the answering service including your name, the name

of your student, the location of your student, the nature of the emergency, and two phone numbers that can be used to reach you. The answering service will contact an IMB Students manager and we will return your call ASAP.

What if I have other questions?

If your questions relate to packing, logistical details for their project or things specific to the location, the supervisor is the best source of information. For questions about visas, travel, insurance, and preparation, IMB Students can help. Please feel free to contact us any time with your questions or concerns and we will help you as much as we possibly can.

804-219-1363 // studentteam@imb.org // [Live Chat Now](#)