



PROJECT OVERSEAS 2020

Project Overseas (PO) Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Can I request a preferred country if I am selected?

A. No. The CTF/FCE matches educators where they will have the greatest impact, based on various factors such as the needs identified by the partner organization in the country of assignment and the participant's background and areas of expertise. You will be informed of your country of assignment when you are notified that you have been selected. This is typically sometime in late January.

Q. Can my spouse/partner accompany me to my country of assignment if I am selected?

A. No, family members and friends are not permitted to accompany a PO participant.

Q. My valid passport expires next May, but I cannot renew it right now as I will need it to travel in a few weeks' time. What should I do?

A. If you are selected for PO, bring any travel plans during the months of March – July to the attention of the CTF/FCE as soon as possible. The CTF/FCE and the travel consultant will work with participants regarding passport renewal, visas and other travel arrangements.

Q. Do I need a doctor's note for my application to be complete?

A. No, you are no longer required to provide a doctor's note with the CTF/FCE application; however, medical disclosure is required on the application form as this information may assist the CTF/FCE.

Q. What is the cost to me if I am selected as a PO participant?

A. The CTF/FCE will pay all project-related costs including transportation, accommodation and meals both for the orientation in Ottawa and the overseas assignment. We also pay program-related costs such as vaccinations not covered by your health plan and travel visas required for certain countries.

Q. Can I apply again if I am accepted into PO?

A. That decision is made by the member organizations of the CTF/FCE who sponsor the PO program. However, the CTF/FCE often assigns returning PO participants and selects Team Leaders from the pool of experienced participants.

Q. If I am selected and approved by my provincial or territorial organization, when will I get a confirmation from the CTF/FCE that I have been selected for an assignment?

A. Applicants that the CTF/FCE has selected for assignment will be informed of their country of assignment in mid to late January. You will be contacted by your team leader in early February and will begin working with your team in preparation for the assignment.

Q. How long does the project last? How much time would I need to be available?

A. The pre-departure orientation takes place in early July in Ottawa. Following the orientation, teams typically depart immediately from Ottawa to their country of assignment. With few exceptions most projects are concluded and volunteers can be back in Canada by the end of July.

Q. What happens if I have to drop out at any point in the process?

A. Emergencies happen. If there is a situation that arises that could cause you to drop out, please let the CTF/FCE and your team leader know immediately. In some cases they can work with you and make minor adjustments to accommodate a situation. If you have to drop out, please contact your provincial or territorial organization and the CTF/FCE as soon as possible.

Q. Do I need to have my vaccinations up-to-date before I can travel abroad?

A. Yes. The CTF/FCE will let you know what to do to take care of this well in advance of your travel date.

Q. Is there training before I go overseas?

A. Yes. From February to June, you will work with a Team Leader and the rest of your team via email and video conferences, with periodic input from the CTF/FCE. Also, the CTF/FCE provides a mandatory orientation for PO participants in Ottawa in early July, before your assignment starts.

Q. Can I apply if I do not have international travel or work experience?

A. Yes, members can apply without international experience.