



Surgical Trip FAQs

Whom do I contact someone about volunteering for a CSI trip?

CSI has designated individuals who serve as the lead for volunteer recruitment and placement for each trip. Many of these recruiters have new email addresses. Please use the list below to identify the individual for your area.

Area	Name	Email
Anesthesia	Lynn Randall	lynn@childrenssurgeryintl.org
Nonmedical / Staff	Lisa Masterson	lisa@childrenssurgeryintl.org
Nursing	Lora Koppel	lora@childrenssurgeryintl.org
OR Nursing	Lisa Masterson (interim)	lisa@childrenssurgeryintl.org
Pediatrics	Dave Tetzlaff	dave@childrenssurgeryintl.org
Surgery	Brianne Roby Siva Chinnadurai Dave Tetzlaff	brianne@childrenssurgeryintl.org siva@childrenssurgeryintl.org dave@childrenssurgeryintl.org

When CSI decides it is safe to travel, how will you begin recruiting volunteers?

Our top priority is the health, safety and well-being of our volunteers, in-country partners and patients. When making the decision to recruit volunteers for a trip, we want to have a high degree of confidence that a trip will proceed. We know volunteers take significant time away from work and family responsibilities to travel with us, and we understand how disruptive trip cancellations can be. When we start the recruitment process, our recruiters for each area will contact their list of volunteers. Volunteers who were scheduled for a canceled trip will be given priority.

What are the dates of the trips?

CSI hopes to resume our surgical mission trips in the fall of 2021. The trips scheduled to date include:

Mexico: October 1 - 6

Tanzania: November 11 - 20

Ethiopia: October 13 - 24

Liberia: January 2022

How can I stay involved when CSI is not traveling?

CSI is committed to supporting our country partners even when we can't travel. We are also working hard to strengthen our trip planning and execution to improve our processes and be ready to travel just as soon as it's safe to do so. With that in mind, there are several ways you can help. If you are interested, please contact mission operations manager Lisa Masterson at lisa@childrenssurgeryintl.org.

- CSI is creating discipline-specific [work groups](#) to focus on things like volunteer recruitment and training, trip packing and supplies, and partner in-person and online education. Join a CSI work group to help improve the delivery of our mission.
- CSI is building our library of in-person and online educational resources and speakers. Share your input and expertise. Do you have lectures and/or other education and training ideas? Be a part of the team that is developing training and collaboration best-practices by discipline.
- We want to provide supply-chain support to our partners even when we're not traveling. Help us sort medical supplies, source specific requests for equipment and prepare shipments.

When we do travel again, what are the expenses trip volunteers are responsible for before and during a trip?

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, CSI is proud to be able to underwrite the vast majority of trip expenses for trip volunteers. The expenses trip volunteers are responsible for include:

- Pre-trip expenses:
 - \$500 team fee
 - **NEW:** VISA application fee (Visas are needed for Ethiopia, Liberia and Tanzania). CSI will not be submitting team members' Visa applications and paying the fee. Team members will be responsible for applying for the Visa in time for the trip. CSI will help with information needed for the application and how to apply.
 - Ethiopia: \$52 for a 30-day single entry Visa and \$72 for a 90-day single entry Visa
 - Liberia: \$70 for a single entry one- to three-month Visa
 - Tanzania: \$50 for a single entry 90-day Visa
- Expenses on the trip:
 - Dinner each night. We estimate \$10-\$15 per meal.
 - Rest day activity. The cost can range from \$50 to \$100 depending on the activity and the number of team members participating.
 - Spending money for souvenirs.

What does my team fee cover?

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, CSI is proud to be able to underwrite the vast majority of trip expenses for trip volunteers. The total cost per team member to travel with CSI varies by trip, but generally ranges between \$2,500-\$4,500. Your \$500 team fee covers a small portion of the expenses we incur for your flight, ground transportation, lodging and two meals per day (breakfast and lunch). *Please note that there is a fee to deviate from the standard itinerary*

selected for a given trip. Talk to the CSI office to get more information before proceeding with any travel plans.

Will I need a COVID-19 vaccination to travel?

When traveling with CSI, volunteers need to see a travel clinic to be advised on immunizations and medications needed for the trip. CSI will also monitor the vaccine and testing pipelines.

Do team members help with pre-trip and post-trip responsibilities?

Each trip has pre- and post-trip responsibilities. These duties are listed in the job descriptions and will be communicated to team members. Here are a few:

- Packing supplies and equipment
- Preparing medical charts
- Screening day planning
- Patient records
- Evaluations/survey