Travel FAQs

How much does the mission trip cost?
The cost of the trip is either $2670 or $1670 depending on where you work and what you do. The actual cost per person of the trip is over $4,000. However, because of the generosity of the Dr. J Douglas Cusick Medical Mission Endowment fund which covers the cost of our medical supplies, the cost for all is reduced to $2,670. The reduced cost is what those outside of AdventHealth Mid-America Region will pay. Team members of AdventHealth Mid-America Region (AHMAR) receive AN ADDITIONAL $1,000 SCHOLARSHIP from the endowment fund that reduces their total cost even more to $1,670. Scholarships are applied automatically to subsidize AHMAR team member trip expenses. One scholarship per calendar year is available per team member.

For those who wish to fundraise to cover their costs, support will be provided by the AdventHealth Kansas City Foundation team. Additionally, because your cost is considered a deductible expense by the IRS, you will be able to deduct the cost of your trip (minus excursions) on your taxes.

What if I want to start my trip before the mission week or extend my trip afterward?
Because we have medical supplies and logistical transfers getting to our partners in Peru and Kenya, we ask that all team members begin the mission together. It is recommended that personal excursions are made after the mission trip is complete. Please work with our travel coordinator for your flights. You will be invoiced for any difference in airfare.

As an AdventHealth team member, do I take Paid Time Off (PTO) to volunteer for an AdventHealth Global Missions trip (AHGM)?
Yes, currently AdventHealth team members must use PTO to serve on mission trips. Volunteers will need to arrange PTO directly with their director/manager.

What is your COVID protocol?
- Peru and Kenya: Currently, COVID vaccination and one booster are recommended, but not required for travel.

Is travel insurance provided and are COVID related issues covered?
Trip insurance is provided to each participant through Adventist Risk Management and is covered by your trip fee. The following are a few of the benefits of the policy (a copy of the policy will be provided to every volunteer prior to travel, along with options for additional coverage if desired):
- Medical expenses
- Emergency medical
- Emergency medical evacuation

Do I need special vaccinations to travel to Peru or Kenya?
The following vaccines are **strongly encouraged** for travel to Peru and Kenya:
- Hepatitis A & B
- Typhoid
- Yellow Fever
- Be up to date on all routine vaccines before your trip

Will I have a room by myself, or will I have a roommate?
Mission trip team members will share a room with a roommate. A single supplement is available for $500 for those who prefer their own room.

Can children participate and do they have scholarships too?
Children ages 12 and older can participate, provided that a parent is also participating. Non-clinical opportunities for children are limited. If you are a volunteer between the ages of 18-22 and are traveling without a parent, we will require some additional information, as well as an interview, before we can approve your application. *Scholarships apply to team members of AdventHealth Mid-America region but not their children. However, we encourage children to fundraise for their own expenses.*

Can I purchase my own plane ticket separately or use miles?
It is important that our teams travel together on the same itinerary. To ensure our group stays together, tickets must be purchased through our travel coordinator. It is unlikely that volunteers can use their own personal miles for obtaining plane tickets. Approval from the AdventHealth Global Missions' committee is necessary. If you are granted approval, the same itinerary as the group is required.

Do I need to obtain a visa to enter the countries we serve?
Peru does not require a visa for US citizens; however, Kenya requires a visa. Single-entry visas to Kenya are available online and $51 which is the responsibility of the volunteer.