

Outreach for Jesus 2025

Application

Term 1: Feb 3 - 13 • Term 2: Feb 17 - 27

A Few Notes:

- Applying to attend OFJ does not guarantee that you will be accepted or that we will have room for you, so please wait until you receive your acceptance letter before booking flights or making any definite travel plans.
- We need money to buy materials and supplies for our work projects again this year. Please consider donating to OFJ!
- Pray that God would prosper our plans, and that we would be able to bless people in Mexico with our presence.

Guidelines

Our aim is to provide a comprehensive, clear, and concise set of guidelines. It is a work in progress so it will be reviewed annually. Changes to the guidelines will be listed at the top of the document and then integrated into the appropriate heading. Please read this thoroughly, especially if this is your first time applying, as there is a lot of information to process.

• New for this year

1. Due to increased costs, tuition will be \$480
2. Added the minimum age requirement, which is 18 years old.
3. We are now able to accept donations through PayPal. This new feature allows you to donate online using a credit card. You can support OFJ by making a one-time donation or by setting up an automatic monthly contribution online.

• Arrival and Departure

1. All arrivals must be scheduled for the first date of the term and all departures must be scheduled for the last date of the term.
2. **Arrival** tickets must be scheduled to arrive at the **San Diego Airport (SAN)** before **4:00 pm**
3. **Departure** tickets must be scheduled to leave from the **San Diego Airport (SAN)** after **10:00 am**
4. OFJ **starts** when we pick you up at the airport and **ends** when we drop you off.
5. If you are planning on extra travel time before or after OFJ, we require a signature from your father. OFJ cannot be held responsible for activities performed outside of OFJ. (The signature voucher will be attached to your acceptance letter) Any attendees found to be in violation of this requirement will be disqualified.

Note: Getting your tickets to fit these guidelines is generally not a problem if you don't wait til the last possible minute.

• Setup and Teardown

There is a lot of work involved before and after OFJ getting things ready and putting things away. We need a few willing men to help with these tasks to make the trip enjoyable for all.

1. We need 5 men to arrive 3 days before 1st term. This means flying to SAN on Friday, Feb 2.
2. We need 8 men to stay 1 day after 2nd term. This means flying home on Friday, Mar 1.
3. If you are interested in helping with this part, please email to let us know and we will give you more information.

Note: Remember that you will be working during these days, do not figure on this time as leisure time.

• Guidelines for attitude and appearance

The purpose of these guidelines is to avoid surprises. We are a moderately conservative Anabaptist Mennonite based group. We welcome anyone that will abide by these guidelines while participating in OFJ.

1. All participants must be living a victorious Christian life and be a member in good standing with an Anabaptist church of your choice. Anyone in transition between churches must have applied for church membership and have the recommendation of the pastor of the church to which you have applied.
2. The minimum age to attend OFJ is 18 years old.
3. For men, shirts must be free of pictures, logos or lettering, except for something like a company name above the front pocket. In all your dress please remember that we are to be representatives of Jesus Christ in Mexico, not some other business or social group and its styles or logos.

4. For the women we are requesting that a modestly sewn cape dress be worn for all activities, both work and recreation. Dresses are to be of the same material and print throughout the entire dress. There are additions without number; stylings, frills, sheer materials etc. that can be added to a cape dress, in the sleeves, hems, waists or elsewhere that are inconsistent with biblical modesty and simplicity. We ask for those things to be avoided.
5. All ladies must wear a head covering that is accepted by their home church for this type of trip. All head coverings should be of a sufficient size to cover the majority of the hair. Veilings are used a lot but should be the hanging style and of a non-transparent fabric that is approved by your church.
6. We expect dress clothes for Sunday services (blue jeans, pullovers, and 3 button shirts are not considered dress clothes).
7. In keeping with our standards of modesty as well as to avoid causing offense to other people with different church standards, we ask that the men and women keep their sleeve lengths closer to the elbow than the shoulder for work and play.
8. Immodest, form-fitting clothing or any other dress fads inconsistent with the basic principle of modesty, will be addressed.
9. Bracelets or similar ornamental attire are not allowed.
10. No one is permitted to leave the main group except by permission or instruction by the directors.
11. Movies of any genre or format are not allowed.
12. Recorded music shall only be used for private worship. If others can hear, it is not private.
13. Curfew is 10:30 pm. You must be in your cabin.
14. Men and women are **not** permitted to enter each other's cabins.
15. We expect team members to work as a unit and not just hang out with close friends.

- **Dating Couples**

To promote appropriate behavior and so that everyone understands what is expected, dating couples should be aware of and observe a couple of guidelines and rules.

1. Dating couples must both be 19 years old or older to attend as a couple.
2. Unless specifically authorized by OFJ staff, do not expect to be on the same jobsite for more than 2-3 days.
3. You and your dating partner are expected to participate in group activities. Do not exclude yourself from the rest of the group for private dates. You should not expect to spend unlimited amounts of time with each other.
4. While in serving under OFJ, we expect dating couples to be non-contact – no holding hands, etc.
5. For what it is worth, things done in secret in Mexico have a habit of becoming very un-secret once everyone is back home.

- **Relating to children at orphanages**

1. Caution must be used when relating to children of the opposite sex older than 9 – 10 years old. Problems have arisen due to a lack of discretion in this area. More specifics will be given onsite during orientation.
2. Do not post pictures on social media of yourself and only one child. Social Services prohibit this. All pictures with children must be of groups of children and volunteers.

- **Relating to each other**

In brief, the spirit of doing God's work with a cheerful heart, seeking to bless your team members and those we contact during the day, brings blessings and lots of fun! The spirit of seeking to get out of it for me and my few friends what we can regardless of the other team members ruins it for many! Please choose to be a blessing and an asset to the group. It will make your time much more enjoyable and beneficial.

- **Attending more than one term**

There is work involved in transitioning between terms. We appreciate when several people are willing to attend more than one term.

1. You may apply for more than one term if you plan on attending each of the terms that you apply for however; acceptance for all terms is not guaranteed unless space is available. Applying for more than one terms does not increase your odds in the random drawing.
2. You must be willing to help with any jobs that we assign between terms.
3. You will stay in Mexico, we will provide a trip or adventure as time allows.

- **Medical Expenses**

OFJ does not accept liability for medical expenses incurred while serving at OFJ.

- **Reunions**

We, as a board, do not organize or chaperone reunions. We request that adult/parental chaperones be present at any reunions.

- **Tuition**

The cost of tuition is \$480. Do not send tuition money along with your application. If you are accepted, you will receive an acceptance letter with instructions on where to send your tuition payment. Tuition is nonrefundable unless a special exception is made.

- **Donations**

We need money to buy materials for the projects that we do. This is how it works...

1. Tuition does not cover any project expenses. Tuition is simply to cover food, lodging and vehicle/gasoline/toll costs.
2. All of the projects are completely funded by donations. Last year we spent nearly \$25,000 per term on project materials and supplies. Every year, as costs go up and projects opportunities abound, that number seems to expand.
3. Please consider a donation if you are able and be sure to tell family and friends about the need for funds. God will provide!
4. Donations can be made on our website through PayPal. This will allow you to use a credit card to donate, plus you can support OFJ by setting up an automatic monthly contribution.
5. Donations can be mailed to: Outreach for Jesus, 560 Rix Mills Rd New Concord, OH 43762. All checks should be made payable to "**Outreach for Jesus**". Tax receipts will be available.

- **Applications**

1. Applications may be submitted starting Sept 1.
2. All applications received between Sept 1 - 8 have priority for acceptance. Applications received during the first week will be treated equally and will be randomly selected for acceptance as space is available.
3. Applications received after Sept 8 will also be randomly selected for acceptance as space permits, but only after all applications from the first week have been processed.

Example Scenario: If Susie submits her application on September 2 and Bob submits his on September 9, Susie will have the first opportunity for acceptance, while Bob will need to wait until all applications from the first week have been processed before his application can be considered.

4. For the random drawing, siblings and dating couples may apply together or separately. If applying together, you will have one entry in the drawing and both will be guaranteed acceptance if selected. If applying separately, each of you will have an individual entry in the drawing, but there's no guarantee that both will be accepted. To apply together, please indicate in the comments section of your application who you are applying with. It's important to note that even when applying together, each individual must complete their own application form.
5. Applications will be reviewed, and you will be notified of your acceptance within approximately 4-8 weeks. Please be patient during this period.
6. We reserve the right to select the first 15 applicants based on specific skills and job requirements. Please list any relevant skills on your application to help us with this selection process.

If you decide not to attend OFJ after you have sent in your application please let us know as soon as you can. There are often people waiting in line that would like to attend in your place if you decide not to.

- **If you have any questions**, feel free to send an email to ofjoffice@gmail.com and we will do our best to get you answers.

OFJ 2025 - Application Form

1. Name: _____ Male Female
2. Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
3. E-mail Address: _____
4. Cell #: _____ or Home Phone #: _____
5. Birth date: ____/____/____
6. Occupation _____
7. Do you have any special skills or experience that may be useful? (e.g., carpentry, electrician, masonry, drywalling, sign language, childcare, nursing, etc.) _____
8. Have you ever served as a foreman or leader of any project or work crew? If so, please describe the type of project: _____
9. How well do you speak Spanish? _____
10. Emergency Contact Person (while you are in Mexico)
Name: _____ Phone # _____
11. If you are dating/courtting, will he/she be attending OFJ the same term? Yes No
If yes, what is his/her name? _____
12. Which church congregation do you attend? _____
13. Are you a communing member in good standing? Yes No If no, please explain: _____
14. Pastor's Name: _____ Phone # _____
15. I would like to attend: **Term 1: Feb 3 - 13** **Term 2: Feb 17 - 27**
16. Comments: _____

By signing this application, I affirm that I have read and understand the preceding guidelines and that I am agreed to obey these guidelines.

Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

As a committee, we recognize that we cannot know everything about you based solely on this application. Therefore, we reserve the right to nullify your acceptance if something is brought to our attention and verified that would disqualify you from being part of our group.

Please send your completed Application Form to:

Email (preferred) Email a clear photo or scan to **ofjoffice@gmail.com**
or mail to: Chris Martin, 56 Majestic Ln, Sinking Spring, PA 19608