

ALASKA IMPACT/MIDDLE SCHOOL GO TEAM 2019

Application Deadline: Monday, January 7, 2019

Trip Dates: June 22- July 1, 2019

Trip ID# AK0619



IMPACT

Apply online at blackhawkchurch.org/serve/globalnational/ -> GO Teams (Short Term Trips) - MB will get this info

What are we doing?

While in Alaska, Blackhawk Church partners with Eaglecrest Alaska Missions, whose mission is to serve the people of Sutton, Alaska through the power of the Holy Spirit. They do this by addressing physical, emotional and spiritual needs.

Our main objective this summer is to help Eaglecrest build long-term relationships with local middle school & high school students. We will partner with Eaglecrest in running a Day Camp for local students. Likely activities include running daily Skill Clubs and games, participating in Life Skills sessions with local students, individual devotional times, nightly group worship gatherings, and opportunities to experience the Alaskan outdoors.

This is an opportunity for Blackhawk students to grow in their leadership and interpersonal skills, as well as an opportunity for significant personal spiritual growth and exploration.

What are the dates?

We will be leaving approximately 6/22/19 and returning approximately 7/01/19, depending on available flights*.

*These dates may change by a day on either end depending on available flights.

How is the team selected/when will I be notified?

Applications will be accepted until Monday, January 7. Our plan is to notify individuals of their application status within 3-4 weeks of the deadline. It is important to fill out the application in its entirety; *an incomplete application (e.g. lacking reference addresses) will not be considered.*

Typically, the number of applicants exceeds the size limit of the team.

How many people are on a typical team?

Approximately 15-16 students and 7-9 leaders per team.

How much will it cost and how will I pay for my trip?

Each participant will have an individual support raising goal. We're estimating this goal to be between \$1,700 - 2,000, however we may alert you to changes in this goal at the first team meeting once the final number of team members is determined. This includes airfare, transportation and lodging in Alaska, meals, etc. All funds support the entire team and we'll work together to reach our goal. The team leader will help you raise funds through support letters that can be sent to parents, extended family, friends, co-workers, teachers, coaches etc. *Each team member is expected to send 70-90 support letters.* Instructions will be given soon after the team is finalized.

Where do we stay?

We will spend most of our time in Sutton, Alaska. We will stay at the Eaglecrest camp facilities; there is a large bunkroom for sleeping areas for each the guys and girls, and modern bathrooms and showers.

What sorts of characteristics are you looking for in team members?

We encourage all students who are interested to apply, regardless of gifting. It is likely that there will be more applicants than spots available. We are looking for students who are hungry to grow in their faith, are servant leaders, work well with others and can be flexible in new environments.

Students are eligible if they are currently in sixth, seventh, or eighth grade. *Freshman & sophomores who were a part of previous years' teams are also eligible to apply.* We hope the trip has a mix of returning students and students new to our Alaska partnership. The team will be weighted with older students, because we hope to build relationships with both middle and high school students in Alaska. Priority will be given to students actively involved in Home Group.

Adult leaders are volunteers invested in the Blackhawk NextGen Ministries or parents of students.

Do I need a passport?

No.

What are the risks of traveling to Alaska?

The US Department of State has issued a general worldwide travel caution (dated 7/2/2018) in response to threat of terrorist actions and violence against U.S. citizens throughout the world. Though there are high risk places throughout the world for which additional warnings are issued, Alaska is not considered a high-risk location. Please visit <http://travel.state.gov> to read warnings and for more information on traveling.

Do I need shots or medications?

You will need to bring ample supply of whatever medications you take on a regular basis. We also encourage you to discuss your travel plans with your doctor to ensure you are up to date on all check-ups and immunizations and discuss any additional immunizations your doctor may recommend.

When will we start meeting as a team?

We will begin meeting as a team in February 2019. There will be 4 team meetings and an overnight retreat. *Attendance at all meetings is mandatory, and it is expected that prospective team members communicate about a personal need to miss a meeting at the time of application.*

Sunday, February 10 - 3:00-5:45 pm - **Meeting with students & parents** (1st 30-60 minutes with parents)

Sunday, March 10 - 3:30-6:00 pm

Sunday, April 14 - 3:00-5:30 pm

Overnight: June 1 (morning)- June 2 (afternoon) (Location TBD)

Thursday, June 20 - Final Preparations Meeting (time TBD)

Celebration Show-n-Tell: Sunday, July 14 - time and date subject to confirmation

Questions?

Contact either:

- Kristin Baker, Trip Leader - kbaker@blackhawkchurch.org - 608.828.4200
- Maddie Blanchard, Impact Ministries Administrative and Global Outreach Assistant - mblanchard@blackhawkchurch.org - 608.828.4200