

GMF Frequently Asked Questions



Service Requirements

Q: What are the applicant requirements?

- Be a Christian
- Be between the ages of 20-30 in the year that service begins
- Commit to two years of service
- Hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent life/ work experience
- Called to address the root causes of injustice
- Called to live out faith while seeking peace and transformation
- Able to communicate in English at a professional proficiency level

Q: Does an applicant need to be part of the United Methodist Church?

All Fellows must agree to and abide by United Methodist values during their time of service. Applicants from other Christian traditions are welcome to apply with this understanding.

Q: What are the language requirements?

A working/conversational knowledge of English is required for all candidates.

Q: Can a Fellow also be a full-time student?

No. Serving as a GMF is a full-time commitment and any studies would have to be put on hold for the duration of the Program.

Q: Can a Fellow serve near home?

As part of the service experience, Fellows are expected to serve outside of their "home" context, so outside their home country or home state if serving in the USA.

Q: Are dependent children allowed to accompany a Fellow to their placement?

No, child dependents are not eligible to accompany a Fellow during their time of service. **NOTE:** the living stipend is designed to support only the personal living expenses of the Fellow and does not usually provide extra for supporting other family members.

Q: Are married couples permitted to serve together in the Program?

Married couples may serve as Fellows. However, both individuals must apply separately and must be accepted on their own merits before receiving an invitation to the Program. If both individuals are accepted, they will be assigned to the same regional area. Married couples can also be a part of the Program if only one of them is applying for or accepted into the Program.

NOTE: the spouse who is not a Fellow will not receive a stipend or the same pragmatic support and Global Ministries cannot cover any of the costs for the relocation or travel and living expenses for the spouse. It is strongly recommended that a couple be married for at least one year prior to applying for the Program.



Program Details

Q: What is the difference between the International and US-2 Tracks?

The International Track is available to passport holders from any country while the US-2 Track is available for anyone who has work authorization in the USA. Fellows in both Tracks attend an orientation event and spend about 20 months in their placement site. To learn more about where Fellows serve, visit our website.

Q: What is the timeline for the selection process?

A timeline of our selection process can be found on our web-page, including processing, interview, and status notification dates. Training for new Fellows will take place in July and August; Fellows will begin the travel process to their place of assignment in August.

Q: Can a Fellow terminate their time of service before the end of the 24 months?

We expect those who enter the Program to make the full 24-month commitment. Voluntary termination has happened in the past and is considered on a case-by-case basis, as it has a significant impact on all parties involved.

GMF Frequently Asked Questions



Program Details

Q: Do Fellows serve at the same site or in the same city as other Fellows?

Increasingly, Fellows are placed in areas where there may be another Fellow in the same town or city. However, this is no guarantee, as placement capacity is related to the needs of the placement site and the skills of the selected Fellow.

Q: Can Fellows choose their placement site?

Fellows are invited to share their preferences for where they desire to serve, but assignments are discerned primarily based on the skills of the Fellow and the needs of the placement site.

Q: Are Fellows safe during their time of service?

Yes, safety of Fellows is a priority. Evacuation parameters are established with the Fellow, placement site, and regional leadership should the safety of a Fellow be compromised.

Q: What is a typical work schedule for a Fellow?

A workweek of a Fellow can be up to 40-45 hours. This includes time spent at the placement site, as well as additional mentorship, community building, continuing education, and other activities that will support the Fellow in their work.

Q: Are Fellows allowed to visit home?

A primary goal of the Program is to be present among the community. Mobility is a privilege and many people do not have the luxury of access to travel. Therefore, travel home is not common for Fellows and is considered on a case-by-case basis.

Q: Are Fellows allowed to have visitors during their time of service?

Yes, Fellows are allowed visitors, but this is contingent upon receiving approval.



Financial Questions

Q: What financial support do Fellows receive?

Fellows are provided with a simple living stipend, which covers daily needs based on cost of living in their area (includes housing, transportation, food and lifestyle).

Q: Do Fellows need to raise money?

Yes, Fellows connect the Church in mission by fundraising for the Program. Training in fundraising skills and networking opportunities are provided during orientation.

Q: Do Fellows receive benefits?

Yes, during service, Fellows are provided with insurance, including medical, dental and vision.

Q: How do Fellows in the International Track acquire documents for travel?

Most Fellows serving in another country will need to apply for a visa and obtaining this visa should be handled primarily by the Fellow with assistance from Global Ministries. Fellows are expected to research the specific procedures for their destination country by visiting the websites or contacting the nearest consular office to inquire about the timeline and details.

Q: Does Global Ministries cover any travel document costs?

Global Ministries provides support for visas for orientation and travel to placement site as long as the expenses are approved. Fellows are responsible for all passport related costs.