

United World Mission

Ministry Position Description

First Term Missionary

Definition of “First Term”: Your first term begins at Entry Point (orientation), and concludes 2-3 years after your arrival on the field.

Ministry Focus: To assimilate into your new culture, build relational credibility and integrate into discerned and/or assigned ministry roles.

Basic Functions: Learn the language, Learn and adapt to the culture, develop relationships (team, partners and nationals), integrate into your team’s mission, explore and engage in ministry opportunities.

Primary Ministry to be Performed

Ministry Engagement – Ministry of Presence, Learning and Integration

1. Build strong relationships within your context. Learn to work interdependently with your team, nationals, partners, and other cross-cultural workers.
2. Engage in various churches and ministries through observation and learning, having a ministry of presence in core areas of UWM involvement.
3. Seek to build evangelistic relationships to share the gospel personally within your context.
4. At the appropriate time, explore and engage in different ministry roles to discover your unique ministry contribution, under the direction of your team leader. Integrate well into discerned and/or assigned ministry activity.
5. Mentoring and Coaching: Meet regularly with your team or cluster leader, or partner for guidance, counsel, mentoring and specific assignments for ministry learning and engagement.

Professional and Personal Development

1. Language Learning: Learn the language so you will have a greater long-term impact. Engage in formal language study and informal practice with intentional goals.
2. Spiritual Formation
 - a. Develop a healthy rhythm for daily and weekly time with God
 - b. Incorporate strong spiritual disciplines that will help deepen your fellowship with the Lord, and strengthen you to be able to pour into others.
 - c. Find places and provided spaces of rest, renewal and mini-sabbatical moments to protect from burnout.
 - d. Mentoring: Contact Spiritual Formation if you would like someone to provide direction or to walk with you through a challenging time in your journey. Remember, ministry flows out of being.
3. Member Care: Meet at least once a month with your first-term mentor via Skype, and receive a personal debriefing at the end of your 1st term.

Culture Adaptation

1. Complete the assigned post CIT (CIT NEXT) courses for your continued learning.
2. Engage in the culture regularly. Observe, study, and engage others as a means to assimilate well and discover keys to unlock cultural barriers to the Gospel. Seek to understand key cultural differences from your own and integrate appropriately.
3. Prayerfully and patiently work through culture shock and culture stress. Seek out care and guidance from your assigned field leader and member care.
4. Strengthen your marriage and family (if married) and singleness. Discover places of enjoyment and rest. Make your new culture home.

Supervision Received: Team Leader (or Cluster Leader) and Regional Leader