

SOS Roles and Expectations

What is SOS?

SOS is an 8-10 week service project that seeks to prepare students for longer-term service. It is designed to give students the opportunity to experience what life looks like while living and serving in various locations. Students will work alongside experienced field workers over the course of their service.

What is required in order to participate in SOS?

- Students are required to have served on at least **ONE** ISP team prior to serving on SOS.
- In addition to ISP requirements, students must have a recommendation from their previous fieldworker.
- Every student participating in SOS is considered a **LEADER**. This means that you are held to a higher standard than those who are participating in ISP.
- Students must be willing to take the initiative and step up in ministry.

Teams:

Each team is composed of 4-6 people and will serve in various locations.

The role of an SOS team member looks much different from the role of an ISP team member. The goal of SOS is to help prepare students for longer-term service and a part of that is giving students more responsibility. This includes things such as:

- **Finances:** Each student is responsible for keeping up with his/her own finances. You will have to budget out your own money and keep track of your own receipts. The goal is to help you learn the life skill of honoring God with your finances.
- **Ministry:** You will be working as a team, but the assignment also requires elements of autonomy. Each team member is responsible for being proactive in completing his/her tasks.
- **Scheduling:** A part of living overseas (or moving to a new place in general) is taking the initiative to get involved in the community and to make friends. You will be involved in setting your own schedule. You will have to have an “on your own mentality”. **MINISTRY RESTS ON YOU!**

What is the role of the team captain?

Each team will have a designated “Team Captain.” You are probably wondering, “I thought that you said that we are all leaders and that we are to have an “on our own mentality,” so why do we need to have a team captain?”

The team captain is a facilitator. His/her main job will be delegation. The captain will assign each team member his/her roles. For example, the team captain will assign who will lead daily team devotions.

During the spring semester, the team captains will meet once a week with someone who is on staff in the MOB office to prepare for the weekly team meetings and training times. The training times are going to be geared toward both field preparation and spiritual development, which will help prepare you for long-term service.

When decisions need to be made, the team captain will lead the discussion and then make a decision based upon the feedback that they receive from the team. If a decision must be made quickly, then the team captain will be the one who makes the decision.