



## Frequently Asked Questions about the International Team in Mexico

**Q:** *When is the deadline for submitting applications for the next Mexico International Team training?*

**A:** Witness for Peace is currently accepting applications for placement in Mexico. Applications must be received by May 31, 2008 for consideration. Applications received after this date will not be considered. Training is set to begin in early September 2008.

**Q:** *Do I have to be fluent in Spanish?*

**A:** Yes. One of our most stringent requirements for being invited to join the Witness for Peace International Team is conversational fluency in Spanish. A first step in processing your application is evaluating your Spanish language ability. Spanish evaluations will be conducted by phone in early to mid June. If at the time of Spanish evaluation you are not fluent enough to begin our training, we usually recommend that you consider a Spanish immersion course and re-apply to the program the following year.

**Q:** *I speak Spanish pretty well and I had a couple of semesters of it in college. Is that enough to be conversationally fluent?*

**A:** Conversational fluency means that you can converse with fluency in Spanish, that you can communicate your thoughts and ideas without much hesitation and that those you are talking to can understand you. It also means that you can understand and respond to those talking to you. International Team members will also be trained in interpreting, and will interpret for WfP groups visiting Mexico. Being conversational fluent implies that: (a) you can use all the verb tenses: present, past, future, imperfect, subjunctive, conditional, present perfect, past perfect, and future perfect tenses, (b) you have a good working vocabulary.

**Q:** *If I am considered conversationally fluent, then what happens?*

**A:** After reviewing your written application, we may invite you for an interview which will be conducted in early July, 2008. You will receive further details if you are invited to an interview.

**Q:** *After my interview, when will I find out if I've been invited to the International Team Training?*

**A:** You will be notified by mid-July whether or not you are invited to the training which will take place in Mexico in September 2008.

**Q:** *What happens after I am notified?*

**A:** Candidates who are invited to training will be required to attend the training and orientation in Oaxaca, Mexico in September 2008. We will provide exact dates of the training upon making an offer to join the International Team.

**Q:** *Will Witness for Peace pay my airfare to Oaxaca, Mexico?*

**A:** Unfortunately, WFP cannot pay for new International Team member's airfare to Mexico, but we will pay for your



lodging, all meals, and transportation while you are in training.

**Q:** *Where do Mexico International Team members live?*

**A:** Witness for Peace provides group housing for each International Team member during the first year of the two-year term. After the first year, Witness for Peace will offer a housing allowance that will permit International Team Members who are seeking alternate living arrangements to live in a setting comparable to Witness for Peace group housing.

**Q:** *When do I actually go to Mexico?*

**A:** Your two-year assignment begins on the first day of training in Mexico.

**Q:** *Is the WFP program like some other alternatives to the Peace Corps where you have to raise \$5,000-6,000 to cover your own transport, stipend, and benefits?*

**A:** No. WFP provides IT members with a monthly stipend of \$206, room & board, health insurance, paid vacation, and approximately \$1,800 for resettlement allowance at the end of your two-year term. We do ask International Team members to participate in a team fund raising effort to raise \$1000 per person, to support the program work of WFP, over the course of their service.

**Q:** *What do I do if I have more questions?*

**A:** If you have more questions about the Witness for Peace International Team in Mexico, please contact Sharon Hostetler, MesoAmerica Region Director: [hostetler@witnessforpeace.org](mailto:hostetler@witnessforpeace.org)

