

Blessing the Children International

Short-term, Long-term & Career Missionaries

The term "missionary" is used in reference to non-national volunteers serving the ministry work of Blessing the Children International (BCI) abroad. An individual serving in Ethiopia is considered a team member during the first two weeks of their trip, since missionaries are preferred to arrive in Ethiopia with a team, or join a team already in Ethiopia.

1. Initial Trip Cost – Getting to Ethiopia

The *Initial Trip Cost* of getting to Ethiopia is the same published rates provided to all teams and missionaries, available here:

http://blessingthechildren.org/Forms/Mission_Trips.pdf

Rates vary during the year because of fluctuation in airline ticket prices. The *Initial Trip Cost* is due in full prior to departure, according to BCI's Mission Trip Payment Policy, available here:

http://blessingthechildren.org/Forms/Mission_Trip_Payment_Policy.pdf

2. Monthly Living Cost – for Living in Ethiopia

The *Monthly Living Cost* for Missionaries living in Ethiopia is calculated according to the time they are staying in Ethiopia. Simply enter the number of months, weeks or days in Ethiopia beyond the first two weeks.

Example: a missionary arriving with a team would like to stay an addition week and a half beyond the two week team: \$133(week) plus \$19 x 4 (days) plus \$2945 (*Initial Trip Cost*) equals \$3,145.

For Short-term Missionaries, the Total Trip Cost (*Monthly Living Cost* and *Initial Trip Cost*) is due in full prior to their departure.

For Long-term and Career Missionaries, the *Monthly Living Cost* for the first six months is due along with the *Initial Trip Cost* prior to their departure. Remaining months of support can be raised/paid from month to month while the missionary is serving in Ethiopia.

TRIP COST CALCULATION FORM – 2009/2010			
DESCRIPTION	COST/MONTH	QTY	LINE TOTAL
Monthly Rate	\$ 579	___	\$ _____
Weekly Rate	\$ 133	___	\$ _____
Daily Rate	\$ 19	___	\$ _____
Initial Trip Cost	\$ _____	1	\$ _____
Total Trip Cost			\$ _____

3. What is Included in the Monthly Cost

Essentially, all living needs are covered by the *Monthly Living Cost*. Missionaries serving under this plan are housed in BCI Guest Houses with other missionaries and teams.

Housing Provided – The *Monthly Living Cost* includes housing in a BCI Guest House with furnishings, utilities, repairs, day and night guards, and a cleaning lady.

Food Provided – The missionaries food is provided through a monthly budget whereby the missionary will be reimbursed actual expenses for food purchased for their use. The maximum reimbursement of \$150 per month is available for food.

Clothing, Entertainment & Miscellaneous Provided – These expenses are provided by a monthly stipend of \$30 for missionaries staying a full month or more. This is not reimbursement based; rather the funds are distributed to and become property of the individual missionary.

Local Transportation Provided – Local transportation is provided via local taxi in Ethiopia. Transport expenses are provided by a monthly stipend of

\$16 (\$4/week). This is not reimbursement based; rather the funds are distributed to and become property of the individual missionary for local transport in Ethiopia. This equates to about 8 taxi trips per day per person, which is generally more than sufficient.

4. What is Not Included

Some examples of expenses not included in the plan are:

- Spending money.
- Out-of-town vacations/excursions.
- Insurance for travel, emergency medical or evacuation.
- Funds for giving to the poor outside of BCI program guidelines.
- Return travel home to visit family & friends.

5. Fundraising

BCI will cooperate with missionaries coming to serve through providing tax deductible receipts to donors when funds are made payable to BCI directly. BCI also tracks donations and will provide reports of amount raised. For more detailed information about raising funds, see pages 10-13 here:

http://blessingthechildren.org/Forms/Missions_Booklet.pdf

6. BCI Assistance with Monthly Living Cost

Long-term Missionaries are welcome to apply for assistance with their *Monthly Living Cost*. Assistance may be requested by emailing the BCI Corporate Office at info@BlessingTheChildren.org and including:

- Name of missionary.
- Missionary's ongoing contribution to the ministry.
- A brief description of why the missionary is requesting support.

This email should be sent at the end of the of the third month of service in Ethiopia, giving the missionary time to experience the ministry and the country of Ethiopia and giving BCI time to know the missionary and their contribution to the ministry. Assistance requests take 30 days to process. If approved, support starts according to the following scale:

BCI MONTHLY ASSISTANCE IF APPROVED	
Months one through four	\$ 0/month
Months five through eight	\$ 174/month
Months nine through twelve	Up to \$ 347/month
After one year	Up to \$ 579/month

For each missionary approved, BCI will contribute the amount listed to the missionary's *Monthly Living Cost*, reducing the amount the missionary needs to raise/pay to live in Ethiopia. All missionaries may not be approved, depending on their individual ongoing ministry contribution and available resources of BCI.

7. Definition of Short-term, Long-term and Career

"Short-term Missionary" means those coming for a period of longer than two weeks, but less than six months. Those coming for less than two weeks are considered team members.

"Long-term Missionary" means those coming for a period of longer than six months, with a scheduled return date for the end of their term.

"Career Missionary" means those coming for an undefined period of time, with no return date scheduled for the end of their term. It is BCI's policy to accept Career Missionaries after they have already come at least once, and experienced Ethiopia and the BCI Ministry.



http://blessingthechildren.org/Forms/Missionary_Short_Long_Career.pdf

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