

Southeast Asia Mission Internship FAQs

Why Southeast Asia?

This spiritually complex region – a mix of Islam, folk tradition, and animism – is home to many UPGs (unreached people groups) who simply do not have access to the gospel. Southeast Asia needs workers with high resilience and determination.

What is the area like?

Southeast Asia is a beautiful land of rivers, volcanoes, and seas. Much of the region is rural, covered with jungles, rice paddies, and coffee farms, but there are megacities that bustle with activity and innovation. This internship is in a city of 2-3 million people who are known for their hospitality, kindness, and patience.

What about the cost?

Charter Oak Church will cover on-site costs: food, housing, transportation, language learning, and a sightseeing trip. You will raise support to cover the cost of your travel: passport, visa (\$50), and round-trip airline ticket (estimated \$1,000-\$1,500). We will coach you through the missionary work of raising support. You might want to take spending money for extra purchases.

Where will I stay?

You will live with a married couple who are full-time missionaries. In their home, you will have a private bedroom and a shared bathroom.

What about food?

Breakfast will be on your own. Lunch and dinner are provided by your hosts; often the same food is served for both meals. You are welcome to use the kitchen as desired.

What documents do I need for travel?

You will need a valid passport and a 30-day visa. The passport must be valid for at least 6 months after your arrival in Southeast Asia. You will apply online for the visa two weeks before your travel date.

How should I prepare?

You will work with our missions manager to decide upon and complete some pre-trip steps such as visiting a mosque, reading through the gospels, reading and discussing an assigned book, or taking a class or seminar. You will participate in a pre-trip training session with your hosts that will cover things like cultural awareness and evangelism.

What should I wear in SE Asia?

You will need to dress conservatively to honor the local culture in a Muslim-majority community. Men will need to wear long pants and a short sleeve shirt when they are out; men can wear shorts at home or when exercising. Women will need to wear long pants or a long skirt with a long sleeve tunic-style shirt when they are out; shorts and short sleeves are fine at home.

What will I do?

You will experience the everyday life of a missionary in a Muslim-majority city. Depending on the time of year, you might

- participate in Bible studies with workers and/or university students,
- experience a taste of learning a foreign language
- participate in neighborhood outreach such as prayer walking and praying with Muslims as God directs
- assist with or observe English classes with local children
- practice Sabbath or mornings away with God for focused prayer time

What about worship and Christian community?

You will experience house church and/or international church and focused prayer gatherings with other missionaries in the city.

Will I get to see any attractions?

Yes! There will be time to explore the area and learn about the culture. Fun days might include hiking to a volcano or waterfall or going to a prayer garden in the countryside.

When can I go?

Our missionaries can host nearly any time of the year. We have three application deadlines and three travel windows. We will work with you to set travel dates that fit your schedule.

- Apply by July 1, 2026 to travel between Sept 2026 – January 31, 2027
- Apply by Jan 1, 2027 to travel between April – June 2027
- Apply by April 1, 2027 to travel between July – Sept 2027

What happens after the internship?

You will share what you experienced with Charter Oak Church staff at a meeting and with the congregation through an article in the church e-news. The missions manager will meet with post-trip to debrief, listen, and process.