



## OFFICE OF MISSIONS MOBILIZATION REGULATIONS FOR MISSIONS CONFERENCE TOURS FOR PASTORS

While we encourage every Alliance church to weave missions into the DNA of their ministry strategy and priorities, we expect every Alliance church will conduct an annual missions conference, as required constitutionally. The District Office/Missions Mobilizer is available to the local church for consultation and assistance in shaping a meaningful strategy for missions engagement in every church – not just a one-week or weekend experience. Their task is to coach, encourage and equip leaders in local churches.

The District Office is available to serve the local church and to assist in the scheduling of missions conference dates/assignments in their districts.

- The director for the Office of Missions Mobilization (OMM) assigns the missionaries who make up the conference tour team to the districts for missions conference tour.
- The district superintendent arranges the dates and itinerary of the conference team with the churches on your tour.
- Interdistrict Tours are administered by OMM, and churches on these tours deal directly with the director for OMM.

The transportation of missions conference team members between churches on the tour is the responsibility of the churches on that tour. The pastors of these churches will make the arrangements for taking the team members from church to church. In the event that a conference team missionary has been authorized to use a car while on tour, the churches on that tour will reimburse the missionary for all tour-related transportation costs, i.e., gas and tolls. Missionaries driving their own cars should be reimbursed mileage. Missionaries driving missionaries-on-wheels vehicles should be reimbursed receipts only. Maintenance, repairs, and travel not related to tour are not the church's responsibility and therefore not reimbursable. **PLEASE BE ATTENTIVE** to ask about and to reimburse your missionary for any appropriate out of pocket expenses while serving you.

If a local church cancels a missions conference service or services, the expenses for travel, food, and lodging due to the cancellation will be assumed by that church.

Reasonable expenses for dry cleaning and laundry are to be submitted to the district superintendent for reimbursement.

Please decide with the missionary who will emphasize financially supporting the Alliance. Gifts to Great Commission Ministries provide funding for the Alliance work around the world. Great Commission Ministries include the Great Commission Fund (GCF) which supports our fully-funded missionaries and their work. Gifts to CAMA Advance fund support the ministry of CAMA Services, the relief and development arm of the C&MA. Gifts to IFAPers, tentmakers associated with the Alliance, and approved work and vehicle specials are also part of Great Commissions Ministries and help support the work overseas.

All cash and pledge offerings for the Great Commission Fund should be sent to Operations/Finance at The Christian and Missionary Alliance National Office. Missions conference-related expenses are to be covered by an offering raised by the tour churches or by their church budgets. A local church may give toward "Approved Specials," as per policy stated in the *2007 International Ministries Handbook, Section G, A, 2, a, b.*

In the event that a missions conference team member must be relieved from tour ministries, permission must be obtained from International Ministries and the district superintendent. The director for OMM also must be notified. A conference team member may be relieved from tour for the following reasons: personal sickness, serious illness in the immediate family that requires the missionary's presence, death in the immediate family, or a specific request from the National Office.

If a church desires to use additional missionary personnel during the conference, the expenses and honorarium become its responsibility.

While this is not to be considered a mandatory regulation, it is recommended that a love offering or honorarium be given to the missionaries for their missions conference ministries in local Alliance churches. While on home assignment in North America, C&MA missionaries receive an adequate living and rental allowance. In addition, they receive a very modest \$5 per diem paid by the district while on their home assignment tour ministry. However, these funds are basically intended for their support while back in the homeland, and do not take into account the funding necessary for return to their mission field. Since missionaries are not permitted to make personal appeals for vehicle, outfit, or project moneys while ministering on tour, unless authorized by the local pastor, (See "Approved Specials"), love offerings and honorarium are an appropriate way of showing appreciation for their ministry while in the church, as well as helping provide financing for their return to the field.

#### **APPROVED SPECIALS:**

In addition to giving to the Great Commission Fund, interested donors have the opportunity to contribute to specific projects called "Approved Specials." An updated list of the "Approved Specials" is published and made available to churches and interested individuals at this web site address: <https://www.cmalliance.org/give/approved-specials.jsp>. Gifts designated for items on the published list should be sent to Operations/Finance at the National Office. A 15 percent Ministry Support Fee will be assessed on these gifts and credited to the Great Commission Fund. Tax deductible receipts are issued to the donors.

Missionaries are urged to encourage the members of the constituency to direct their primary giving through the Great Commission Fund. However, "Approved Specials" are also critical to the ministry of the work on the field. During speaking engagements missionaries may solicit donations for "Approved Specials," only after receiving prior approval from the local pastor.

Because the primary fund-raising goal of the annual missions conferences is focused on the Great Commission Fund, missionaries may not initiate appeals for any "Approved Specials" until after the regular offerings and Faith Promises have been received and at a time agreed upon by the local pastor.

Although many of the "Approved Specials" relate to special projects and programs of the overseas church (i.e., theological schools, literature centers, radio studios, etc.), only missionaries of The Christian and Missionary Alliance may make direct appeals for these funds. In rare cases and after approval by Church Ministries, an overseas church member may be permitted to make direct appeals to American congregations of the Alliance.

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