# TAIWAN GO TEAM
# BLACKHAWK CHINESE MINISTRY
# IMPACT MINISTRY
# PARTICIPANT 2026 FAQ

IMPACT MINISTRY
BLACKHAWK CHURCH

**Application Deadline: December 19, 2026**
**Trip Dates: August 11-23, 2026**
**Trip ID: TWN0827**

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**Apply online at** https://blackhawk.church/form/?id=4FCFED5D-B67B-4274-850F-FA2A8C680342

## What are we doing?

The purpose of this GO Team is to support Fugang Lighthouse Church, a church plant by Taitung Boai Baptist Church and hold an English children's day camp (4 days) to draw children from the neighborhood to go to the new church plant, bringing the gospel and building connections to the local communities.

This trip will focus primarily on evangelism and discipleship as team participants preach the gospel and build the local church by impacting lives and advance God's kingdom in this region. Participants will experience significant personal spiritual growth and develop evangelism skills, as well as helping our church grow in its understanding of overseas missions in action.

## What are the dates?

The GO Team will be leaving 8/11/2027 (Wed) and returning 8/23/2027* (Mon).
*These dates may change by a day on either end depending on available flights.

## How many participants will be on this GO Team?

Space will be limited for this team. The team will consist of 10-20 adult team members. Blackhawk members at all sites are encouraged to apply. Chinese and non-Chinese speaking members are welcome to apply. Seniors in high school are also welcome to apply, but they must be at least 18 years of age at the time of the trip.

## What sorts of characteristics are you looking for in team members?

Team members must be adults and active members of Blackhawk Church. Members do not have to be BCM attendees—all sites are encouraged to join! Some level of Mandarin-speaking proficiency is preferred but not mandatory. It is important that our team members are mature, available, humble, and flexible, and would make a positive contribution to the team and serve the local church with an open mind, open hands, and a servant's heart. The ideal candidate will be interested in developing mutually transformative relationships with the people of Taiwan. Please take note of the Safety Concerns section below when applying. Team members should be in decent health condition and can walk long distances (20 min per day, and occasionally 60 minutes per day). Please contact our Trip Planner Madi Chao if you have any questions.

## How is the team selected/when will I be notified?

After reviewing this document and praying about your decision to apply, please fill-out the online GO Team Application by **Saturday, December 19th, 2027**. Individuals will be notified of their application status within 4 weeks of the deadline. It is important to fill out the application in its entirety; *an incomplete application (e.g. lacking reference addresses) will not be considered.* After reviewing applications, some applicants may be asked to meet with trip leaders and/or members from the Impact Ministries team to discuss their application. Typically, the number of applicants exceeds the size limit of the team.

## Who is leading this trip?

Pastor Charles Huang will be the trip leader. We also plan to have a co-leader for this trip; however, that is still to be determined.

## How much will it cost and how will I pay for my trip?

Each participant will have an individual support raising goal. We're estimating this goal to be **between $2850-3410**, however we may alert you to changes in this goal at the first team meeting once the final number of team members is determined. This includes airfare, transportation and lodging in Taiwan, meals, etc. ***All funds support the entire team, and the team will work together to reach the goal***. BCM and the team leader will discuss ways to raise support with the team's participants.

## Where do we stay, and how will the team get around in Taiwan?

Upon arrival in Taipei, Taiwan's capital, the team will travel by train to Taitung, our primary city of ministry and residence. While onsite at Taitung, the team be will stay at lodging provided or recommended by Fugang Lighthouse Church. Transportation to and from our lodging and ministry sites will also be via rental cars; we are looking for 4-5 members with a valid U.S. driver's license. The team will likely need to walk some distances between our lodging and the church. The lodging will be modest, but clean; they may have shared bathrooms. Team members will be asked to share rooms with other team members.

After our onsite time in Taitung, the team will travel back to Taipei by train and spend 2 nights there before flying back to the US. The team will lodge at a hotel in Taipei and will travel in the city by metro system (subway).

## Do I need a passport and visa to get into Taiwan?

Participants must have a valid passport (US, PRC, ROC, etc.) that does not expire through the intended duration of stay and has at least 2 blank pages. The current turn-around on USA passports can be 8-13 weeks. In order to avoid a conflict with our departure dates, *please double-check your passport status before you submit your application for this trip*. You can learn more about the US Passport process through the US Postal Service at www.usps.com/international/passports.htm or at a local branch of the post office.

If you are a US citizen, a visa is not required for our travels in Taiwan. If you are a citizen of any other country, please reach out to Pastor Charles Huang or Madi Chao (contact information at the end of this document).

## What are the risks of traveling to Taiwan?

The US Department of State has issued a general worldwide travel caution in response to threat of terrorist actions and violence against U.S. citizens throughout the world. The State Department currently considers Taiwan to be a Level 1 (lowest level) country, meaning that travel should be done with normal precautions. During the typhoon season (May through November), Taiwan's Central Weather Bureau issues typhoon warnings an average of five times a year (of which, three to four normally make landfall) and heavy rainstorm alerts. In recent years, Taiwan has seen cases of dengue fever, a virus common in subtropical regions that is spread through mosquito bites. Travelers can protect themselves by preventing mosquito bites. For information on how to reduce the risk of contracting dengue, please visit the U.S. CDC website.

Please visit travel.state.gov to read warnings and for more information on traveling.

## Do I need vaccinations or medications?

You will need to bring an ample supply of whatever medications you take on a regular basis. We also encourage you to discuss your travel plans with your doctor to ensure you are up to date on all check-ups and immunizations and discuss any additional immunizations your doctor may recommend.

Taiwan currently does not require any vaccinations for entry into the country. The CDC recommends travelers be up to date on routine vaccinations (chickenpox, flu, measles, etc.) as well as Hepatitis A. See the CDC recommendations for Taiwan at https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/taiwan. Participants who have not been on a short-term trip before you should do this as early as possible as some of the vaccinations require repeat visits. More details will be given during the first team meeting.

## What about COVID or other public health issues?

COVID-19 has had a large impact on how people travel throughout the world. CDC guidance on travel is fluid, based on current national and local situations. We ask that you abide by CDC guidance and any national, local, or partner-identified COVID restrictions. Currently, Blackhawk does not require COVID vaccination for GO Team participants unless required by our transportation providers (airline, bus, etc.) or local government.

Currently, travelers to Cambodia who are fully vaccinated for COVID (with vaccination card) do not need to quarantine or be tested for COVID upon arrival. Unvaccinated or not-fully vaccinated travelers may need to take a COVID test given by health officials at the port of entry; a positive COVID test may result in required treatment at the expense of the traveler.

Please visit https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/ for more information about travel's health.

## What happens if someone on the team contracts an illness (like COVID) or is injured?

If any team member gets ill or injured while in Taiwan, the team will follow the recommendations for treatment given by local medical personnel.

## What is the climate like in Taitung, Taiwan for the time the team is in-country?

Taitung during August has hot and humid weather with an average daily high temperature of around 30-31 degrees C (87 degrees F) and a chance of afternoon thunderstorms. Expect very humid conditions, an average of about 17 rainy days, and roughly 323 mm of monthly rainfall.

## Can I set up a separate personal trip at the beginning or end of the GO Team trip?

For reasons of logistics and liability, the GO Team Travel Policy is that team members will NOT be able to plan separate trips, whether in-country or to other countries, as part of this GO Team experience. **However, if you have a trip already planned to your country of nationality that would make travel to Taiwan easier from that country than from the US, please contact Madi Chao (trip planner) as soon as possible**. Keeping the team together as much as possible helps keep the team "on mission", focused on the team goals without being distracted by other travel arrangements.

## When will we start meeting as a team?

We will begin meeting as a team in February 2027. Meetings will include team building, discussing support raising, trip logistics, training for the trip, etc. *Attendance at all meetings is mandatory, and it is expected that prospective team members will communicate about a personal need to miss a meeting at the time of application.*

Orientation Meeting: Saturday, February 27, 2027 / 10:00 AM (tentative)
Team Meeting #1: Saturday, March 13, 2027 / Time TBD
Team Meeting #2: Saturday, April 10, 2027 / Time TBD
Team Meeting #3: Sunday, May 2, 2027 / 12:30 PM - 2:15 PM (light lunch provided)
Team Meeting #4: Sunday, June 13, 2027 / 12:30 PM - 2:15 PM
Team Meeting #5: Saturday, July 10, 2027 / Time TBD
Preparation Meeting #1: Sunday, July 25, 2027 / 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM
Preparation Meeting #2: Sunday, August 1, 2027 / 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM
GO Team Send Off Prayer: Sunday August 8, 2027 / 11:15 AM (BCM Service)
Final Preparation Meeting #3: Sunday, August 8, 2027 / 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM
GO Team Trip: Wednesday, August 11, 2027 – Monday, August 23, 2027
Celebration and Trip Presentation: Sunday, August 28, 2027 / 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM

## Questions?

Contact:

- Charles Huang, Trip Leader
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- Madi Chao, Trip Planner
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- Kiki VandenBrook, Impact Ministry Coordinator
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