

RESPONSIBILITY OF PARTICIPANTS



Because each Ministry is a Ministry of the Church, certain expectations of all participants and their family exist:

- A child/youth desiring to participate in any of the Ministries must make his/her intention known in writing by the assigned deadline. Those who wish to go after the deadline will not receive the subsidy, but may still attend at their own expense.
- Parents and youth/child(ren) must attend all planning meetings. If unable to attend, arrangements must be made with the Ministry Director/Lead to obtain information from the missed meeting.
- All participants – parents and youth/child(ren) - are expected to abide by all policies set down in writing. In the event of a dispute, the matter will be brought to the Parish Priest, whose decision will be final.

COMMUNITY SERVICE



In addition to conditions outlined above, all prospective participants will be expected to offer a minimum of 5 hours (grades 3 - 6) or 10 hours (grades 7 - 12) of Parish Community Service per year. Community Service includes but is not limited to:

- Annual Greek Festival - baking, set-up, at-festival service, etc.
- Coffee Hour service and/or clean-up
- Shut-in Visitations
- Christmas Caroling
- Diakonia, etc.

OTHER



Each youth will have a “Passport” which must be signed, stamped or initialed by and returned to the Parish Priest when signing up to attend an event. All chaperones and youth workers will submit to background checks in accordance with insurance liability requirements.



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*Ss. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox
Cathedral of the Pacific*



Youth Ministries Travel Assistance Guidelines

The purpose of the Youth Ministry Travel Assistance is to give the youth and young adults of Ss. Constantine and Helen a fuller religious education experience, opportunities for fellowship, and greater awareness and appreciation of their Orthodox Christian Faith and Traditions through participation in various Youth Ministries of the Metropolis of San Francisco. These Ministries include, but are not limited to St. Nicholas Summer Camp and Greek Village, Greek Orthodox Folk Dance & Choral Festival (FDF), St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, and other as identified by the Parish and Metropolis.

TARGET GROUP



By definition, financial assistance is available to the Youth of the Parish who meet the following criteria:

- Between 8 and 26 years of age (entering 3rd grade and through college - as long as still a dependent and an enrolled college student)
- Are baptized or chrismated Orthodox Christians
- Regularly attend the Divine Liturgy and participate in the Sacramental life of the Church
- A child of a supporting family of the Parish (Steward) for at least one year prior to the planned trip
- Offer volunteer Community Service to the Parish, as outlined below
- Are enrolled and participate in the Parish Religious Education program with a minimum of 75% attendance.
- Exception to the above may be granted with permission of the Parish Priest.

QUALIFYING



In order to ensure participation in Metropolis Youth Ministries by all who qualify, the Parish customarily offers financial assistance to all who meet the criteria above.

Financial assistance comes in two forms:

- Block grants from Philoptochos, which is equally shared among all participants
- An amount defined by the Parish Budget which may cover up to 80% of travel expense for each participant, including the Director or Group Leader, not to exceed the budgeted amount for that

ministry. The balance of travel cost – approximately 20% - will be the responsibility of the participant's family. Cost of Chaperone(s) will be the responsibility of the participating families and/or Ministry.

PURCHASE OF TICKETS



The Youth Ministry Director/Group Leader will submit the names of qualified youth to the Parish Council in order to calculate the Parish commitment.

1. Parents must commit at least 90 days prior to the departure date; this will ensure a greater choice of reasonable airfares/hotel accommodations.

2. The amount of reimbursement will be calculated based on funds available and youth participating in the activity.

3. The reimbursement calculation will be reviewed and approved by the Parish Council.

4. Air travel will be provided for qualifying participants and directors - up to 80% - from the Parish Budget.

5. Parents will purchase their tickets and will be responsible to coordinate with Chaperones. If a parent chooses to purchase a ticket on a different airline or flight the parent will waive the responsibility of the Chaperone.

CALCULATION OF EXPENSES & REIMBURSEMENT



The Parish will pay 100% of travel expenses for the Youth Director or his/her designated replacement. The rate of 100% is based on above-mentioned lowest rate calculation as approved by the Parish Council. Chaperones and other sup-

port staff will be reimbursed at the same rate as the Youth.

- Parents will be reimbursed by the Parish once the event has completed, attendance is confirmed, and valid receipts are submitted to the office.
- When travel includes a hotel, the rate of reimbursement will be calculated in a similar manner.
- Youth may travel with any airline and/or stay at any hotel, but will be reimbursed based on the approved reimbursement rate for the airline/hotel of choice.

CHAPERONES



While travelling to and from or attending any of the above Ministries, participants are expected to behave appropriately. For their supervision and safety, a chaperone will accompany participants from the Honolulu International Airport to and from the location of the event.

The Chaperone will:

- Be an Orthodox Christian in ecclesiastical good standing with the Church.
- Be a Steward of Ss. Constantine & Helen current in his/her stewardship obligations.
- Be at least 25 years of age.
- Complete a criminal background check

Chaperones will be selected by the parents and Ministry Director/Chair. The name of the selected Chaperone will be provided to the Parish Priest and Parish Council President, and a background check will be conducted. The Archdiocese Youth Protection Manual (YPM) will be utilized for the selecting, training, and expectation of a Chaperone. The ratio of youth to chaperone will be approximately 6:1.