

Frequently Asked Questions and Parent Information :: Second City 2021

When is Second City :: May 19-July 15, 2021

Cost :: \$4,300

COVID-19 FAQs

How do we know we will be able to go overseas by next summer :: The quick and short answer is that we don't. No one can really be certain that we will be able to travel around the world in the Summer of 2021. But we do have a team of experienced physicians, travel agents, and pastors helping us make wise and safe decisions about our summer projects. In order to plan a trip of this magnitude (40+ people traveling to over 6 international locations) almost 8 months in advance. At the moment of us making these plans, we are hopeful that a reliable medical treatment of COVID-19 will be developed, and that world travel will open back up enough to allow a team to travel to a country, take the necessary precautions (quarantine, COVID test, etc.) before moving freely about the city for 6 weeks.

What if we end up not being able to go overseas :: Last summer, we had 43 students signed up to complete Second City and were halfway through the support raising process when COVID-19 altered all of our summer plans. We were able to act quickly and the project was cancelled with all donors being allowed to request a refund. But at this time (8 months out from the teams leaving the U.S.), we have to make a plan to travel, otherwise we are choosing to not go international because of COVID, but because we didn't plan for it.

Will there be Covid precautions taken :: I think we all can agree that COVID-19 will probably alter the way we all live, travel, and share public space moving forward. We will follow all CDC guidelines for the entirety of the project and will do all we can to ensure that ALL students' safety is a high priority.

How can we know we'll even be able to do Second City :: Again, it is not that we "know" that we can do Second City. We just simply have to plan for a project of this magnitude in advance (currently we are 8 months out from Second City Orientation Week). So while we are not 100% certain that Second City will happen the way we foresee it happening now, we must move forward with plans now.

How do students raise support :: The primary way is through communicating to those who want to invest in your development as a disciple of Jesus. Through letter or email, combined with a personal visit or phone call, convey the unique opportunity you have in the City Project. This is more than a mission trip. It is a holistic development of right thinking about God, a vision for the church, and a love for the people of the world. You should start having these conversations as soon as you turn in your application. You don't have to ask for money yet, but especially to those you know well, begin talking about the City Project and share your excitement with them. After your official acceptance into the City Project, we will train you how to raise support and you will be given sample letters and other resources to use.

What is the money I raised used for :: Most funds go toward your plane ticket and in country costs for the international portion of the summer including food, transportation, lodging, and ministry expenses. Other costs include books, travel insurance, and background checks.

What happens if a student doesn't raise all the funds needed :: We have clear support raising deadlines in place that have been communicated to your student. While we will work with your student as much as possible as they seek to meet these deadlines, if the deadline is not met by the specified date, then they will not be able to participate in the project. We truly believe that God has called your student to this project and that he will be faithful to provide the funds as your student works hard and is faithful to follow the support raising process we have in place.

Housing :: During the brief time your student is in Durham for training and debriefing, they will be staying with host families from The Summit Church. International Housing is being secured in different locations by our field partners. Some will be in hotels, some will stay with trust host families, and some will be in mission guest houses – either way security, again, is a top priority and we ensure that these housings situations will be handled with great care and communicated to you as a parent with clarity. Specific details will be disclosed closer to departure date.

Food :: Meals while students are at the church will be provided by the Summit, and students will be provided with stipends for meals while they are not at the church and while they are in their international locations. Funds will be given to them on a regular basis by their team leader to use for food and transportation.

Transportation :: Students will drive or carpool during the brief time they are in Durham for orientation and debriefing. Students will be using public transportation in their respective field locations.

International Safety and Concerns :: Student's safety is one of our top priorities. Each international location for the summer is a place where The Summit Church has strategic long-term partners that have proven great competence through years of experience as well as years of hosting teams from Summit. We and our partners are monitoring the safety of each location very closely on a regular basis and assure you that we are not sending students to places that are unwise. In each place, students will have the opportunity to engage in strategic work for the sake of the gospel that will aid, encourage, support, and play a party in the long-term work of our strategic partners.

Can students go home during the summer :: Only if students have been pre-approved for absences during the summer can they travel home. If students have to be sent home for any reason, they will be financially responsible for any ticket changes or extra transportation costs.

In Case of Emergency :: To reach your student, find out information, or ask questions during the local or the international portion of the summer, email gonow@summitrdu.com to get in touch with Summit College Staff. The same applies for a personal family emergency on your part or if you hear about something that happens in Durham or internationally – just email us at this address and we will respond immediately! This email will be checked consistently by multiple people throughout the summer. In addition to emailing this address, you can also call any member of the Go Now Leadership Team at the numbers listed below. Please note that even if you call one of these numbers please still email the address above to ensure someone responds immediately (these pastors will be traveling throughout the summer as well):

College Director Team

- **Wes Smith**, College Pastor, wsmith@summitrdu.com
- **Jordan Kohman**, Go Now Director, jkohman@summitrdu.com
- **Elizabeth Hughes**, Women's Director, ehughes@summitrdu.com
- **Charles Holmes**, NCCU Campus Director, cholmes@summitrdu.com
- **Josh Ferguson**, College Associate Pastor of Discipleship, jferguson@summitrdu.com
- **Whitney Ford**, Administrative Associate, wford@summitrdu.com
- 919-383-7100 – The Summit Church Office

Communication While traveling internationally :: Once we have secured an itinerary for your student, and they have met all financial requirements for participation in their international trip, we will make your student's travel itinerary available to them online. If the trip has Summit College staff team leaders, they will accompany students during their travels. Our Summit College staff members who are not traveling will do the best we can to track each team's progress through their itinerary. However, please know that international travel itineraries are prone to change quickly, both before and during international travel. Although Summit College keeps track of changes the best we can, changes that happen during international travel are often both outside of our control and beyond our ability to track in a timely manner. When changes like this happen, we cannot guarantee that we have the ability to communicate all changes of itinerary for your student because the team leader may not have time or ability to communicate to us. Therefore, **if you desire to track your student as they travel internationally, we highly recommend that you and your student agree upon a communication plan during their international travel.** That will provide the parents peace of mind and help the student understand why it is important for them to communicate to parents during travel and upon arrival.

Dessert Celebration :: At the end of the summer, we will have a celebration banquet that we'd love for you to attend! We would love for you to come to the banquet which will be during debrief week (July 19-15, 2021). This will be an incredible opportunity to hear about what your child was a part of this summer. We will communicate the time, location, and any change of plans to your student during the summer.

What is expected of students during the summer :: Below (next page) is the covenant that students sign in order to be accepted into this program. If this covenant is violated at any point during the summer, students could be dismissed from the program and sent home as his/her own expense. While this is extremely rare, we try to set clear expectations beforehand for the health of the program and the success of students and all other students involved.

SECOND CITY :: Summer Guidelines

Second City, like any summer leadership program, has designed certain standards and policies to accomplish the goals of the program. The standards are not necessarily policy for all environments, but are deemed necessary for this project.

1. WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING AN ENVIRONMENT OF SAFETY AND PROTECTION IN AN URBAN AREA.

- No foolish behavior that put your and/or others' safety at risk
- For safety, students should always seek the advice and counsel of the field partner before being out at night. Generally students should never be out at night alone.
- No going to clubs or bars unless instructed to do so by your field partners for strategic ministry.
- Dress appropriately for the communities you are living & serving in (i.e. sunbathing, jogging, etc.)
- No firearms of any kind including airsoft, paintball, BB guns, etc.

2. WE ARE COMMITTED TO MAINTAINING A HIGH STANDARD OF MORALS AS A CHRISTIAN TESTIMONY IN OUR ENVIRONMENTS.

- Honor the Lord with your appearance through cleanliness and modesty.
- Always abide by all mandated dress codes specified by field partners.
- No men in the women's bedrooms and vice versa. You may be in the community rooms together.
- No tobacco, alcohol, or drug use is allowed. Infractions may result in dismissal the project.
- No immoral activity.
- Practice wisdom, prudence, and holiness with your entertainment choices (movies, internet, etc)

3. WE ARE COMMITTED TO MAINTAINING A HIGH LEVEL OF CREDIBILITY AND EXCELLENCE WITH FIELD PARTNERS, THEIR CITIES, AND THE SUMMIT CHURCH.

- Prioritize cleanliness in your living environments at all times. Complaints regarding the cleanliness of your space will be taken seriously, and your leaders reserve the right to perform periodic room inspections for cleanliness.
- We expect you to be on time to all meetings & events each day.

- Submit to the desires and instructions of the field partner even if they are contrary to what you would expect or think – you are there to serve, not be served.
- Display an attitude of submission and respect towards all leaders and authorities.

4. WE ARE COMMITTED TO CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT TO BEST ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS OF SECOND CITY.

- No unapproved trips or absences. Any travel outside of the your city must be approved by your team leader and the Second City Director.
- All project activities are required functions and should be attended on time. You need the approval of your team leader to miss a meeting or event.
- No leaving the project before it is officially over. 2C Director must approve exceptions.
- Be considerate of others at all times. Keep quiet hours in apartments; be respectful, etc.
- No DATING while on Second City ... If you already have a significant other off Project, great! But, we require your interactions to be group minded.... Foster Second City community... etc.

Dismissal note: The Second City leadership reserves the right to dismiss a student from the project if deemed necessary for the health of the student and/or for the overall health of the project. If a student is dismissed, he/she will be sent home and his/her own expense.

Second City :: Summer Covenant

Devotion

- _____ I commit to make knowing and obeying Jesus everyday my highest priority (Mk. 3:14).
- _____ I will spend daily time with Jesus through the Bible and prayer in order to pursue my own spiritual growth and to pray for those I will serve (Matt. 4:4, 1 Tim. 2:1).
- _____ I commit to following Jesus through all difficulties this summer. I will endure knowing that he is working for my good in all things (Heb. 12:1-11).

Character

- _____ I will strive to bring Glory to the Lord Jesus Christ in all I do and will maintain the highest standards of Christian character. To be a faithful witness to Christ, I will keep my character above reproach (1 Cor. 10:31, Phil. 2:14-15).
- _____ I will maintain the highest level of purity and agree to abstain from all sexual sin including pornography (1 Cor. 6:12-20).

- _____ I will be flexible, teachable, and humble throughout the summer.
- _____ I agree to have a servant's attitude at all times. The needs and priorities of those I serve are more important than my own (Mk. 10:42-45).
- _____ I will steward my body well and make wise choices in my exercise, eating and sleeping habits (Matt. 25:14-30)

Community

- _____ I will display Christian love and respect to all people, even if they are different than me (Lk. 10:29-37).
- _____ I will put the preferences of my roommates before my own and will seek their wellbeing in our living environment. I will respect my roommates by keeping my living space and common rooms clean (Phil. 2:4).
- _____ I will strive to foster the unity and health of my team. I will be an encourager (Phil. 1:27).
- _____ I will not gossip or slander against others. If I have been wronged, I will seek reconciliation directly with those involved. I will get help from others until the conflict is not resolved (Matt. 18:15-17).

Authority

- _____ I will submit to and respect those who have been given authority over me at all times (Phil. 2:5-11).
- _____ I will strive to maintain the unity of the project by supporting my leaders and their decisions. I will address any issues I have with their leadership in a Christ-like manner (Heb. 13:17).
- _____ I understand that if I act in a way that is dishonoring to the name of Jesus and do not submit to the leadership of Second City and of The Summit Church at any time during my assignment, I could be dismissed from the program at my own expense.

Miscellaneous

- _____ I understand that excessive use of the Internet, email, phone, text messaging, and social media may be discouraged and limited during my assignment. I agree to monitor myself, and resist activity that keeps my focus from my ministry.
- _____ I have honestly disclosed any spiritual, emotional, mental, or medical issues/history that could affect my participation in this program.