



Dear Student,

Thank you so much for applying to be a part of the 2020 YMCA Center for Civic Engagement's International Exchange with Plan Padrino in Colombia.

The trip will take place in June. The exact dates will be chosen as we move along with the selection process and will be based on when the selected students will be able to travel. We will go to Colombia for 8-12 days in order to visit the communities that our service project, Plan Padrino, aids. We will stay in both Bogotá and Ibaguè in hotels and home stays.

You, as the student participant, will be responsible for all costs (\$1500 total for hotel, food, activities, and flights). Due to budget constraints in 2020, we will not have any financial aid available for this trip.

There will be three chaperones attending with the students. Tyler Dorr, CCE Program Director, will travel with our team. One of the chaperones, Mr. Jim Fitzpatrick, has visited Ibaguè and Bogota several times and is personal friends with the Y International Director in Bogota and with the head of the Y in Ibaguè. Our third chaperone, Emily Perry, is a CCE alum who has traveled to Colombia with our team in 2018.

The official application is attached. In addition to basic information, there are a couple of short answer and essay questions. Please do your best in answering these questions. They will be the primary means by which we choose the students that go. **Note: You do not have to speak Spanish to attend.**

Please turn in your application by January 22nd at the latest to Tyler Dorr at tdorr@tennesseecece.org. Participants will be interviewed by Zoom video meeting. You will be notified by February 1st if you have been selected to attend. After this, we will then move onto the process of obtaining the necessary travel information. If you or your parents or guardians should have any questions during this process, please fill free to e-mail Tyler or call him at 615.743.6237.

Sincerely,

Susan

Susan Moriarty
Executive Director

Elise

Elise Addington Dugger
Associate Director

Tyler

Tyler Dorr
Program Director

Please complete this information to the best of your ability. All answers to short answers and essay questions will be used to evaluate applicants.

STUDENT INFORMATION:

Student Name: _____ Gender: M/ F

School _____ Grade _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Student home phone _____

Student cell phone _____

Parent or Guardian name: _____

Parent or Guardian e-mail: _____

Parent home phone _____

Parent work phone _____

Parent cell phone _____

Dietary Restrictions _____

Is there anything we should know that limits your travel abilities?

QUESTIONS:

Short Answer:

1. Have you ever traveled abroad before? If so, where and why?
2. Do you currently have a passport?
3. Do you speak Spanish?

Essay Questions. Please answer these in 150- 300 words.

1. Why do you want to go to Colombia, and what do you hope to gain from this experience?
2. What qualities and characteristics do you possess that set you apart from other applicants and make you an ideal participant in this international exchange?