

# High School Mission Trip

## 6:8 Costa Rica

### June 30-July 6, 2026



Trip Cost: \$1425 (This is the individual share of the \$2025 total/person)

Trip Leader: Brandon Gober (HS Director) and other High School Leaders

For questions, please email Brandon Gober: [bgober@mandarinpres.com](mailto:bgober@mandarinpres.com)

This summer we are offering TWO unique mission/serve experiences – in Costa Rica and Dayton, OH. We encourage you to look at each trip - pray and consider which one God may be leading you to be a part of. We understand there are many motivations behind why you may choose a specific trip - friends, adventure, service hours, desire to grow deeper with God, wanting to serve significantly - the list could go on! **These trips are first and most importantly about what God is doing in our world and how we can join that and support ministry partners in Costa Rica and Dayton, Ohio.**

\*Costa Rica is a great first international mission trip for students who want to travel overseas and be part of God's global work. We have partnered with 6:8 ministries doing trips for over 15 years and have long standing relationships with their staff. This trip will allow students to serve with US missionaries, interact with Costa Rican children and adults, and volunteer on a work project that benefits the local community.

\*\*Dayton, Ohio is our Next Level trip for 2026 through an organization called LeaderTreks. You might be scratching your head - how would a trip that is within the US be a Next Level experience? Like all our Next Level trips, this week is intended to further challenge students to learn about culture and ministry work in a new context, to take steps out of their comfort zones and to engage in global service. This trip does that in a unique way AND will be the first trip we have done with a strong emphasis on leadership and discipleship. This trip is open to students who have served on an international mission trip before (with MPC or other organization); students who have been on a US trip before will be considered on an individual basis.

**Trip Description:**

This summer we will be continuing our partnership with 6:8 Ministries to serve the people of Costa Rica in TWO locations. This team of students will be led by Brandon Gober and adults who are leaders in our High School ministry.

Our team will be divided in two groups and each group will spend half of their week in Alajuelita, the poorest county in all of Costa Rica. The unemployment in Alajuelita is a staggering 70%. Here we will be participating in ministry projects such as prayer walks, kid ministry, feeding centers and more. The second part of the week will be at Living Water Ranch. Our team will take part in multiple service projects in the community. We will also continue to support the relationships 6:8 has started there. We hope students will experience God and Christian community, expand their view of the world and what God is doing in it, and see how the Christian life is a life of following Jesus and serving others.

**Who should Apply:**

- High School students who have prayed about this trip and feel God leading them to this team.
- Students who are willing to set aside their personal comforts and fully participate in all aspects of the week. This trip includes physically challenging work, relational connection, community engagement and spiritual growth.
- Students who will have a great attitude at all times and who will be open to what God is doing.

**\*Note:** Students on this trip will only be allowed to bring cell phones for use on travel days. Phones will be locked in a safe during the week and MPC is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen phones. Parents will have emergency numbers, and we will post daily updates on a private Facebook page.

## **Dates and Requirements:**

A trip of this size and cost is no small undertaking! For everything to run smoothly and be fully funded we need the following from team members and their families – (these are NOT optional):

Team Members:

- ❖ **Complete application** and turn in a \$450 non-refundable deposit by Sunday, January 25!  
(Anyone not selected for this year's team or put on waitlist will have their total deposit refunded)
- ❖ **Attend Parent/Student Meeting:** February 22, 4-6pm at the Office Campus  
\*\*\*Save this date\*\*\*
- ❖ **Current passport** (expiration cannot be less than 6 months after the trip)
- ❖ **Help sell mulch** to family and friends and distribute flyers in neighborhoods - we are asking each participant to have a goal of at least 10 orders from family/neighbors outside of the church
- ❖ **Help with spreading mulch** on 4 of these 6 dates: March 21, 28 and April 4, 11, 18 & 25.  
\*If you do not complete 4 spread days, \$150 will be added to your balance for each missed day. You can have a parent or another person work for you if needed.
  - **Mulch days are from 8am – 5pm. Students are responsible for being there the entire time OR getting someone to come fill in their spot if they have to leave early/arrive late.**
  - **At least one of your four days needs to be April 18 or 25 as these are our two biggest weeks!**
- ❖ **Pay remaining deposits:** \$325 by March 15, \$325 by April 12, and \$325 by May 10
- ❖ **Participate in Crave or Wed. Bible Study *at least twice a month.*** (It is important to be connected with peers and growing in faith year round – not just in Costa Rica!)
- ❖ **Attend Training Days**
  - Training: Sunday, April 26 from 4-6pm
  - Training: Monday, June 29 from 6-8pm
- ❖ **Commissioning Service:** June 28 at the 10:30am Worship Service
- ❖ **Actual Mission Trip:** June 30- July 6
- ❖ **Team Worship Rehearsal:** TBD
- ❖ **Sharing Worship Service:** TBD

## Parent Requirements

Parents (or an adult in family):

- ❖ **Attend Parent/Student Meeting:** February 22 from 4-6pm at the Office Campus
- ❖ Sign up for at least **2 days of the following** (Signup Genius)
  - Selling mulch at the tent on Saturdays on mulch spread dates
  - Mulch Deliveries – Every Thursday and Friday before spread dates (or other day as available)
  - Drive and spread on mulch Saturdays
- ❖ **Make sure your student is available to attend and fulfill all of the listed requirements and that payments are made at the designated times**

\*For questions or more information contact:

Brandon Gober [bgober@mandarinpres.com](mailto:bgober@mandarinpres.com)

# **MPC High School Mission Trip – 2025 Application**

6:8 Costa Rica

June 30-July 6, 2026

\*Please read the trip description and carefully review the team and parent requirements before filling out the application! Then answer the questions as honestly and openly as you can. There are no “right” answers – we are looking for your honest reflections!

\*All applications submitted will be carefully reviewed. Submitting your application DOES NOT guarantee your spot on a team. We will consider a variety of factors for team selection (not limited to but including): **Time and day application is submitted**, involvement at MPC/Crave/Bible Study; maturity and leadership; whether or not you have had the opportunity to be on a Costa team before and thoughtfulness of answers.

\*This trip is open to all HS students who are able to commit to the team requirements.

Applications MUST be submitted online – [www.mandarinpres.com/hsmissions](http://www.mandarinpres.com/hsmissions)

Note: You will need to type your answers into the online form. We are giving you the questions here so that you have time to prepare.

**Applications will be accepted starting at 10am on January 1 through midnight on January 25.**

Deposits are due January 25 to hold your application. We will notify everyone of team selection no later than February 10, 2026. We will deposit checks at the time of team announcements.

Anyone not selected for a team or waitlisted will have their deposits returned. **Airfare and many other trip expenses are non-refundable. If it is necessary for you to drop after the team selection, we can only refund what you have paid beyond our expenses to that point.**

## FUNDRAISING

Mulch is the main fundraiser for this trip and is the only way we can offer participants the discounted trip cost. Even if you could pay the trip cost, many others cannot. We couldn't pull it off and assist others without everyone's efforts – that is why it is a requirement. We will be taking orders and then doing all deliveries and spreading over a 6-week window of time. Participants will choose 4 of the 6 spreading Saturdays to work. See dates and requirements page for details.

In addition to mulch, team members have the option to sell TPC tickets and keep \$40 per ticket sold for their trip cost. We will also give you a sample letter that can be sent out to family and friends if you would like to raise money that way. \*TPC tickets can be sold starting in December – you do not need to wait for team selection. Information on how to sell them will be posted at [mandarinpres.com/hsmissions](http://mandarinpres.com/hsmissions).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade and School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

1. In addition to attending Crave, do you participate in worship at a local church (MPC or other)? If yes, what is the name of the church?
2. In the past 3 months, how has your faith been reflected (or not) in your life and actions?
3. What is a next step towards Jesus that you want to take this school year?
4. What excites you the most about serving on our Costa Rica team this summer?
5. In what ways will this trip challenge you?
6. What things do you think are important to have a healthy and effective mission team?
7. Do you have any physical limitations, medical conditions, etc. we should know about?

**(These additional questions are for those who have been on our Costa Rica team before. Please answer in detail).**

1. Having been to Costa Rica, why do you wish to return and what new ways do you hope to grow this year?
2. What do you anticipate will make this year a different experience for you?
3. What do you think will be important for returning team members to do or not do as second timers?
4. Because of your experience, how will you prepare yourself for this trip?

I have read all the dates and trip requirements and have shared them with my parents. If picked for this team, I agree to fully meet these expectations and rearrange my schedule as necessary to do that.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*I have February 22 written on my calendar so I can attend that meeting with my parents if I am chosen for this team.**