

# **Cross-Cultural Solutions**

## **Essential Eligibility Criteria**

The mission of Cross-Cultural Solutions is to operate international volunteer programs around the world in partnership with sustainable community initiatives, bringing people together to work side-by-side while sharing perspectives and fostering cultural understanding. Cross-Cultural Solutions volunteer and intern experiences take place in multiple countries around the world and are guided and supported by the CCS in-country staff.

The health and well-being of CCS participants is our top priority. During the CCS experience, volunteers live in a CCS Home-Base and engage in challenging and impactful volunteer experiences as well as unique and interesting Cultural & Learning Activities. The program also gives participants the opportunity to independently explore the community and country during weekends and other free time. The activities conducted require that each participant be willing to work with others, take direction and safety precautions as provided by Cross-Cultural Solutions staff members, and take responsibility for him or herself. *Please note that Cross-Cultural Solutions programs are not designed as a therapeutic program, and therefore, neither therapeutic nor adjudicated (court-mandated) youth are allowed to participate.*

The EEC listed below is applicable for all Cross-Cultural Solutions volunteers. A qualified person is one who can meet the EEC for participation.

### **Each participant must:**

1. Be 18 years of age or older, or accompanied by an adult (except in the case of the High School Volunteer Abroad program, where participants must be 15- 17 years of age), unless an age exception is expressly made by Cross-Cultural Solutions.
2. Be able to manage all personal care and mobility independently, or with the assistance of a companion who accompanies the participant.
3. Be able to work effectively as part of a team, even in stressful or challenging situations.
4. Contribute to a safe environment - no verbal or physical inappropriate behavior of others is tolerated for any reason.
5. Effectively communicate ideas and concerns on an individual or group level.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the CCS program structure.
7. Be able to independently identify and recognize potential hazards, which may include, but are not limited to, street traffic, utilizing public and private transportation during free time, hazards related to alcohol consumption during free time, and other aspects of international travel.
8. Be able to independently identify and recognize hazards and risk posed by other volunteers, which include, but are not limited to, fatigue, state of mind, and actions that may influence judgment and decision-making.
9. Understand and abide by all CCS policies and rules.
10. Be responsible for carrying and responsibly dispensing personal prescription medicine (HSVA volunteer medication will be dispensed and held by the CCS in-country staff)
11. Understand and speak functional English
12. Be able to travel independently to the country of their choice
13. Agree to background, sex offender, or random reference checks conducted upon request or at random
14. Become familiar with the country and culture of the selected program and behave according to local expectations
15. Require full disclosure of health needs and conditions. Omitting or falsifying information on the Personal Data Form or Health Form is grounds for program termination.