



XMA, Inc COVID Policy – Updated August 2022

Since 2020 the COVID-19 virus has disrupted individuals, families, and organizations around the world. As vaccinations against COVID-19 became available, we instituted a policy requiring the COVID-19 vaccination for our employees / trip leaders. This decision was not taken lightly but driven by our mission to serve and in compliance with the countries where we serve. In many countries, COVID-19 vaccines were necessary for access, and access is necessary for gospel proclamation. We were confident the vaccination requirement was necessary to reach the people we are called to reach with the gospel and to lower the risk of severe illness leading to hospitalization or death. We are grateful for our team's commitment to do whatever is necessary to reach the lost.

Over time, by God's mercy, the threat of COVID-19 is declining. In June, the Biden administration dropped the Covid-19 testing requirement for inbound air travelers. Multiple tested and approved treatments for COVID-19 infections are now available around the world to prevent symptoms from escalating. As a result, the COVID-19 vaccination policy is no longer an overall requirement for travel with XMA, Inc. **unless your team leader, country of destination, or transiting country requires proof of Covid-19 vaccination.** In agreement with the CDC, XMA, Inc. continues to recommend, but not require, the COVID-19 vaccination for everyone over the age of five years old, unless a specific medical reason prevents it. We are grateful to have reached this milestone in the fight against COVID-19.

Furthermore, adventure travel is inherently risky. As an organization XMA has always worked diligently to mitigate these risks. However, in today's world every traveler, and especially XMA mission volunteers, MUST assume more responsibility for their decision if and when to go and the potential consequences for them, their families, and those we go to serve. Even though the COVID-19 vaccine is no longer required, some things to consider when deciding whether to travel include, but are not limited to:

- XMA cannot take responsibility if you are quarantined, detained, refused exit or entry by the US or any other country, or in any way affected by the corona virus or other travel restrictions. (Your short-term trip may turn out to be much longer than you planned! Can your family, job, or business make it without you for an undetermined length of time? If you display symptoms while in another country are you ok being quarantined by their government and treated by their healthcare system?)
- XMA volunteers must comply with all laws, regulations, and mandates concerning COVID including, but not limited to, testing, vaccines, masks and other required PPE, cost of a prolonged stay and travel restrictions.
- As required by IRS regulations XMA cannot give refunds for any reason. If your trip is canceled or delayed for any reason, we cannot give refunds.

I and my family have read and understand the above and are aware of the actual and potential hindrances to travel at this time. I release and hold harmless XMA, Inc. from any and all corona virus related issues including, but not limited to, those listed above.

XMA Volunteer Name (print) _____

(Signature) _____

Spouse or Parent (print) _____

(Signature) _____