



## Budgeting Tips

The GO Fellowship includes most of your expenses related to your volunteer service. The Committee would prefer to have as complete a budget as possible, so that we have a good idea where the money is going and what can be changed if necessary. Most budgets are limited to \$4,000 so that we can fund the greatest number of students. The committee does take into account financial need, length of service, and other circumstances beyond your control. **It is better to reflect the “real” amount you need than to skimp on the budget.**

As you create your budget, some things you might want to include but are not limited to:

- **Program Fees**
  - These are usually on the organizations website
- **Airfare**
  - Check a website like [www.travelation.com](http://www.travelation.com) or <http://www.studentuniverse.com/> or <http://www.expedia.com/> or one of the many out there
  - **Add 10%** to the cost of the flight you find (historically we have seen airfare go up as much as this)
- **Visa Costs**
  - Do a Google search for “*Country Name* visa cost” This will probably return a link to their embassy where you can find out what type of visa you will need and how much it will be.
  - Factor in the cost of postage – sometimes as much as \$20
- **Immunizations**
  - Check with the CDC <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list> for what is required
  - You can then call the County Health Department to see how much they will cost
  - Generally it runs from \$100-\$200 depending on which ones you have had before
  - Or, check with your family physician
- **Insurance**
  - Some programs include this, most require it
  - Sometimes your current insurance will cover your medical costs but you need to check
  - Check out <http://www.worldnomads.com/> for reasonable prices on comprehensive insurance
- **Background Check**
  - If you are working with children some organizations require that you have a criminal background check. Check the organization. There are several out there, but here is one to look at: <http://www.intelius.com/>.
- **Other transportation costs**
  - Contact your organization to see what other costs might be
- **Estimation of food costs**
  - This can vary a lot depending on where you are going and is **often included with your program fees**
- **(Optional) Estimation of cost for supplies to give to organizations**
  - Can include books, school supplies, gifts for host families, etc.
- **(Optional) Other personal costs**

Keep in mind that the program with which you are working will be able to help you with what they cover and what they do not. A camera will be loaned to you if you don't have one.

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