

SHIRTS ACROSS AMERICA

New Orleans, LA (NOLA) – Service Immersion Trips Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I apply to be a student volunteer with Shirts Across America (SAA)?

Shirts Across America is accepting applications online at www.ShirtsAcrossAmerica.org. Applications will be accepted until 11:59 PM on your school's application deadline (one week after your school's Trip Information Night date). SAA partner schools host mandatory Trip Information Nights where students and parents receive valuable information regarding their trip.

2. If I did not attend a Trip Information Night, may I still apply for the trip?

We look at many sets of criteria to determine who receives invitations, with our goal being to take as many applicants as possible. Lots of valuable information is presented at the Trip Information Night, so attendance is highly encouraged. We will maintain a complete list of those who attended a Trip Information Night and those students will receive credit for doing so, however attendance at the Trip Information Night does not guarantee acceptance, nor does absence from the Trip Information Night disqualify a student from being considered.

3. Will my student be working with other students from their own school?

SAA will collaborate with each school's advisor to create teams of students from the same school. These teams may include students of varying grade levels within their school. Each team will be assigned an Adult Team Lead (ATL), typically a parent of a student traveling on the trip, or a faculty/staff member from the same school as the students.

4. Who are Shirts Across America's building partners in New Orleans?

SAA partners with three entities to ensure that our resources are being deployed in a way that directly impacts families trying to move home. SBP USA (formerly St. Bernard Project), YRNO (Youth Rebuilding New Orleans) and NOAHH (New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity) have been dedicated to educating volunteers and transforming homeowners' lives.

5. What type of work will the students be involved in?

The students may work in any of the following areas: demo, mold remediation, insulation, drywall, mudding, sanding, painting, flooring, landscaping, or other projects that SBP, YRNO and/or Habitat deem necessary.

6. What type of supervision is available on job sites? Will my student be operating power tools?

SAA teams are not allowed inside a job site without their SBP or Habitat site supervisor present. They will be taught how to complete the tasks they are given and will be supervised throughout the process. Students may be trained to use specific power tools; these students

must be 18 years-of-age and be willing and able to learn the proper techniques before being allowed to use a saw or any similar device.

7. Where do the students stay? Are meals included?

SAA accommodations are dormitory-style with rooms accommodating students of the same gender. Most meals are included in our trip cost and provided by our housing partners. The students will eat dinner or lunch off-site on occasion during the trip to support the local economy. Some of the meals are paid for by SAA, others are part of each participant's out-of-pocket expenses.

8. Who are the Adult Team Leads on the trip?

Our Adult Team Leads (ATL) are typically parents of students on the trip, school staff members, or other adults SAA works with throughout the school year. Those adults interested in traveling to New Orleans as an ATL may apply online at www.ShirtsAcrossAmerica.org. ATL applications will be accepted until 11:59 PM on their affiliated school's application deadline (one week after their affiliated school's Trip Information Night date). All parents are encouraged to apply for a position as an ATL.

9. What is the Shirts Across America Core Team? How do I become a part of Core Team?

The Core Team (known as the Titans Core Team) is SAA's year-long leadership program. Student leaders on our Core Team work on their campuses to prepare all participating students for the immersion trips. Core Team members are exposed to dynamic guest speakers and a thought-provoking curriculum that provides them with the skills and confidence to be thoughtful leaders. We are proud of the awards and acknowledgements our former Core Team members have received on their college campuses. They inspire us daily to offer the best leadership program imaginable.