

# 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](http://www.ShirtsAcrossAmerica.org). Applications will be accepted until 11:59 PM on Sunday, October 17, 2021. SAA hosted two Trip Information Nights where students and parents received valuable information regarding upcoming trips.

### **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's process of connecting students with friends/peers from their school and other SAA approved schools has been greatly successful. Each team of students will be assigned an Adult Team Lead (ATL), typically a parent of a student traveling on the trip.

### **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. NOAHH (New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity), YRNO (Youth Rebuilding New Orleans), and SBP USA (formerly St. Bernard Project) are dedicated to their region as they educate volunteers and transform homeowners' lives.

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

The students may work in any of the following areas: demo, 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 Habitat, SBP or YRNO 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 have their parents permission.

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

SAA accommodations are dormitory-style 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. Any adults interested in traveling with Shirts Across America to New Orleans may apply online this week at [www.ShirtsAcrossAmerica.org](http://www.ShirtsAcrossAmerica.org). ATL applications will be accepted until 11:59 PM on Sunday, October 17, 2021. 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 acknowledgments our former Core Team members have received on their college campuses. They inspire us daily to offer the best leadership program imaginable.