



2026 Medical Clinic Program Information Guide

This document provides a brief overview what to expect when serving at the medical clinics in Guatemala. Please also read the **Volunteer FAQs** prior to completing your application.

Faith In Practice may deem it necessary to adjust the guidelines as needed during the year. Thank you for your flexibility, understanding, and willingness to work within these parameters.

Recruiting

In 2026 your team can expect to see roughly 1,000 patients during the mission week. The specific number of patients for each clinic will vary from day to day and team to team.

Team size: Around 40 US volunteers. If you have a team exceeding 45 US volunteers, please notify your staff contact to determine if there are hotel accommodations to fit a team size of more than 45 US volunteers. Please try to recruit bilingual medical providers.

Roles to recruit for Medical Clinic Teams:

Please plan to recruit at least 1 family practice physician/NP to support the general clinic and pediatric clinic as needed depending on the patient numbers.

- General or family practice physicians or nurse practitioners: 4
- Pediatric or family practice physicians or nurse practitioners: 2
- GYN physicians: 2
- Orthopedic Specialist: 1 (*necessary to support appropriate orthopedic referrals*)
- Imaging specialist: 1
- Laboratory: 2
- Triage: 2 (preferably bilingual)
- Pharmacy: 4 (at least one must be a licensed pharmacist)
- Interpreters: 14 interpreters needed to cover all the clinics if no providers speak Spanish
- Spiritual Leader: 1
- Blogger/Photographer: 1
- Provider Assistant(s)/General Support: 2
- **Mobility Clinics:** In 2026 all medical clinic teams will have a mobility clinic component and all team leaders should plan to recruit the following roles for the mobility clinic.
 - 3 PTs/OTs
 - 2 Medical Providers (either MD or NP)
 - 1 Triage Volunteer (take vitals, provide albendazole, administer labs)
 - 3 Assemblers (help build wheelchairs and provide modifications to the wheelchair)
 - 0 – 4 Interpreters, based on the Spanish proficiency of the PTs/OTs and medical provider.

Other Specialties or Possible Clinics

- Women's Health Clinic (VIA/Thermo): All 2026 medical clinic teams will have a VIA/Thermo component.
- Audiology Clinic: If you brought an audiologist in a prior year, please let us know if you are interested in bringing audiology back in 2026. Please note that all audiology devices and supplies will need to be procured by the audiologist/team. If you plan to bring an audiology component please plan to bring an ENT Physician.

- Dermatology: If you are considering including a dermatologist on your team, please contact Houston staff to discuss further.

Roles to **NOT** recruit:

Dental Providers. We will not have a dental component on our Medical Clinic teams in 2026, however, there is an opportunity for dentists to join us on Obras teams in 2026. If you have a dental provider interested in joining Faith In Practice, please reach out to the Houston Office. We will update our team leaders if/when we are able to add dental back to medical clinic teams.

Medical Clinic Faith In Practice Staff will accompany the team as needed on the mission trip.

Staying Healthy

Faith In Practice strongly encourages all volunteers to be current with the vaccination schedule outlined by the CDC, including routine flu and pneumonia vaccines. Please refer to the Center for Disease Control for traveling to Guatemala at <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/guatemala>. The CDC has extensive and valuable information related to travel in Guatemala, and Faith In Practice encourages all volunteers to review this site. Faith In Practice also urges all volunteers to consult with their personal physicians for specific, individual advice regarding medical precautions.

Please review the **Illness During Mission Protocol (IDMP)** for additional information that outlines expectations and steps to be taken when a communicable illness may be present among the FIP staff, US volunteers, or Guatemalan volunteers during a medical mission.

Please note that the rainy season in Guatemala runs from May through October. These are the months that mosquito borne illnesses are commonly the most prevalent. Similar to the US, increases in mosquito activity and mosquito-borne illnesses in Central America happen every year around this time. Faith in Practice volunteers are reminded to use mosquito repellent and to cover their arms and legs at all times.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Face masks are encouraged to be worn at the clinic site and will be available. Face masks are not mandatory in village clinics unless otherwise directed by Faith In Practice staff. Most up-to-date protocols will be provided to you and the team during your team orientation in Guatemala.

Insight

All medical clinic teams can expect to use Insight, our patient data platform. Insight is a custom-built, intuitive-to-use data management platform that enables our volunteer teams to improve the care of patients through better management of patient health information.

Supplies and Medications

Faith In Practice will provide team leaders and volunteers with the 2026 Medication and Supply list, which includes the pharmacy formulary, in September/October 2025. We strongly encourage your physicians and pharmacy team review the list prior to traveling to Guatemala to familiarize themselves with what will be available during the mission trip.

Flight and Travel Requirements

A visa is not required for U.S. citizens entering Guatemala. Your U.S. passport must be valid at the time of entry and exit out of Guatemala. We recommend having a minimum of 6 months validity on your passport when you enter Guatemala. For the most up to date information on US passport information to enter Guatemala, please visit the [Travel.State.Gov](https://travel.state.gov) website.

If your passport is from a different country, please check with your state department on requirements to enter Guatemala.

We ask volunteers **not to book flights** until they are officially added to the team in the database and receive a confirmation email stating that they have been added to the team.

It is very important for team members to make every effort to arrive to Guatemala on the team flight or on a flight that is within the same timeframe. Faith In Practice is not able to support multiple pick-ups from the airport or arrivals prior to the mission week.

When leaving Guatemala, team members should depart on flights within the same timeframe and ride the team bus to the airport. In the event that a volunteer is unable to depart with the team on the departure date due to geographical limitations or limited flight options, Faith In Practice can set up individual transportation for a team member for an additional fee.

Volunteers extending their stay in Guatemala will be required to make their own proper accommodations. Faith In Practice is not responsible for arranging accommodations or financially contributing to arrangements outside of the official team dates.

Hotel/Lodging

There will be double occupancy rooming during the mission week. Each U.S. volunteer can expect to have a roommate during the mission week.

Ground Transportation

We continue to work with many of the same providers and some new providers. Public Health regulations regarding public transportation, including shuttle buses, will be occupied at full capacity. **All team members must be on team transportation.**

Share The Mission

Share The Mission (STM) is Faith In Practice's volunteer fundraising program and serves as a vital source of funding that helps provide life-changing healthcare to patients in Guatemala. Through donations and prayers from volunteers' family and friends, STM directly supports the costs associated with medications and supplies, patient transportation and housing, follow-up care, mobility aids, and other essential operational needs. All volunteers are encouraged to create a personal fundraising page and invite others to participate in the mission, with resources and support available through the Share The Mission toolkit and at sharethemission@faithinpractice.org.

We will strive to keep these Information Sheets updated.

*For more detailed information about our 2026 teams—and answers to the most frequently asked questions from your team members—please refer to the **Volunteer FAQs**.*

Pictures from teams serving in the Medical Clinics

