

Peru Internship Criteria

Missionary Couple Internship:

God is opening the door for another couple to go down and work as our missionaries in Peru, as Doug and Blanca transition back to the states to start our Spanish speaking church by 2025. Fill out the application form and check the box for “couple”.

- Interview & exploration process
- If approved for next step, go on an exploration trip
- If approved for next step, spend 3-6 months living on our property with our current missionaries
- If approved for next step, commitment phase begins
Engage in 1-1.5 years in language school / cultural development preparation
- Once training is complete, an additional 5-year minimum commitment living in Peru would be required - Approximate total time spent: 7 years -10 years

Short Term Projects Internship:

As we go forward, there may also be opportunities for 3-6-month short-term project trips. If you are interested in learning more about this internship and working with our missionary couple, you can also complete the application form. We may allow couples to apply for this internship as well.

Short Term Internship:

1. Interview and exploration process
2. If approved for next step, attend cultural preparation at Grace and zoom with Doug & Blanca
3. If approved for next step, go on one exploration trip (at your expense)
4. If approved for the next step, you can then engage in 3-6 project periods at a time
5. When you are not on a trip, you can volunteer with our REACH department to develop and grow our mission effort from our Grace locations in Arvada.

What To Expect

Here is a glimpse of what our Shawi ministry looks like in Peru. Grace Church supports 7 Shawi missionaries. These 7 men form three teams that come to Yurimaguas for about one week every two months for training and teaching of God's Word. We might be adding two more men for our fourth team. These three teams are then sent to 3 different regions of the jungle to teach the Word of God that we have shared with them. The men are traveling for 2 weeks every month. Last year the men made over 120 visits to different communities. We also have 3 regional meetings each year in which we go to a village and invite other close-by villages to participate. Almost all of these regional meetings involve communities with believers but no trained pastor. These are really exciting meetings. As a result of our missionaries' visits, we have discovered that there are approximately 50 villages with believers but no pastor. We see this as a huge priority. These churches need pastors. This is why we started Grace Mission Institute on our property in Yurimaguas in March of 2022. Between 10 to 15 students have participated each semester. Our semesters cover the entire month of March and the entire month of October. The course requires 4 semesters to graduate. We also host 1-2 big conferences each year in a village.

For a short-term visit to the jungle, you must be in good physical shape and able to withstand rigorous physical and often times emotional challenges. A yellow fever vaccination is recommended but not required. Some get hepatitis vaccines, but they are also not required. Most people who come take anti-malaria medication while they are in Peru. The common illnesses in the jungle are diarrhea and stomach cramps, malaria, and dengue fever. Malaria and dengue aren't common but they do occur. Many people use repellent to keep the mosquitos away. Mosquitos carry dengue and malaria. Staying hydrated is very important, as it is very hot and humid.

If you are a missionary couple interested in coming to live and serve in Yurimaguas, here are some things you can expect. Grace Church owns a beautiful property right in the middle of the afternoon market, which occurs every day. When you walk out the front door of the property in the afternoon, you are right in the middle of the outdoor market where you can buy about anything you want. It's not Walmart, but it is loaded with all kinds of tropical fruits, vegetables, and meat of various kinds. There is also a larger market in downtown Yurimaguas every morning until about noon. We eat very well here. Believe it or not, there are also some really good restaurants! Our church house on the property is very nice. It has 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, a laundry room, kitchen, small dining area and a beautiful large yard. We have coconuts, pineapples, palmarosa (a red fruit), and mangos. We just planted some Maracuya! (Yummy) It's hot almost every day but after a little while you get used to it. We do have good air conditioning, hot water and all the conveniences that you enjoy.

To get here, you must fly from Denver to Houston or Miami, which can take 3 ½ to 5 hours. You then fly from Houston or Miami to Lima, which takes another 5 to 6 hours - close to 10 hours total of flying time. After arriving in Lima, you will spend the night and head back to the Lima airport to fly to Tarapoto. This flight is about 1 hour and 15 minutes. From Tarapoto, you will need to get a taxi or van to take you to Yurimaguas. This trip will take about 3 hours. If you are going to a conference with us, you will spend the night in our dormitory and we will fly the next day in a Cessna for about 30 minutes to the village. It's exciting and we hope to see you soon!