



Loyola College in Maryland  
**Center for Community Service and Justice**

Behavioral Expectation Agreement  
for Loyola College Participants in Domestic Immersion Programs

As a Jesuit institution, Loyola College in Maryland is committed to education through involvement in service and the pursuit of justice. To this end, the Center for Community Service and Justice offers members of the college community the opportunity to participate in service immersion programs that involve participants in direct service alongside members of a host community. Through participation in immersion programs, participants have first-hand experiences with women, men and children who struggle to meet their basic human needs, and through such personal experiences, gain a deeper understanding of social justice issues. The goal of our immersion programs is to move enthusiastic, curious students from being heartfelt volunteers toward becoming active, lifelong, participatory citizens and agents for social change, committed to social justice.

To that end, we have established behavioral expectations that honor and facilitate the accomplishment of program goals, while also assuring the safety and security of all participants.

As a participant in a CCSJ immersion program:

- I understand that I represent Loyola College in Maryland. I will adhere to the Student Code of Conduct set forth by Loyola College in Maryland, will abide by all college policies and regulations, as well as instructions presented by College employees and student program leaders, whether written or verbal. I will endeavor to maintain the highest standards of personal conduct.
- I will be respectful of the people in the host community, students from other universities, and of my group members who, like me, need rest, quiet, privacy and peace of mind. I will do nothing to cause them risk, worry or anxiety.
- At all times I will assure that my personal behavior is morally and legally acceptable.
- I will fully participate in all aspects of this program, including fundraising, education, group meetings, and community building activities.

## Alcohol/Drugs

- I understand that alcohol and illegal drugs are excluded from this program. Participants are expected to abstain from alcohol during the week we are visiting the host community.
- I agree to comply with this policy as a sign of solidarity with people in the local communities who are materially poor, and with those who struggle with addictions of any sort.
- **I understand that if I use or carry alcohol or illegal drugs during the spring break immersion experience I may be sent home from the program at my own expense.**

## Respectful Behavior

- I agree to be deliberately modest in my packing for the program. I will choose to live simply during the immersion experience in an effort to be sensitive and respectful of the local people and the limitations they experience on a daily basis.
- I will maintain appropriate boundaries during the trip both with people from the host community and with members of my program group. I will not enter into romantic or exclusive relationships with people from the host community or with any of my group members during the trip.
- I will intentionally seek to build relationships with all participants in the immersion group in order to stay open to the opportunity to learn from and grow with all members. I will be attentive to ways that I can contribute to strengthening the immersion team, and I will avoid separating myself from the team to spend exclusive time with a few members
- I understand that our Site Group has a local contact person who is the host for the duration of our stay, and I agree to respect and follow the wishes and directives of this person, in keeping with my own good judgment.
- I am a guest of the host community, and will make every effort to be open to and respectful of their beliefs, traditions, values, and local customs. I will pay attention to and comply with local mores regarding dress, social interactions, public behavior, etc.
- I understand that taking photographs will always be done with discretion and sensitivity, as a camera is an item that community members may not own or be able to afford. Also, I recognize that taking photographs of community members may require my asking permission.
- I recognize that I am a member of a particular group of Loyola students and employees with whom I will travel, live, and work. Even though the tasks assigned may not be those of my own preference, I agree to do them generously and with a good attitude, especially because I understand that the fulfillment of these tasks is for the enhancement of those people or communities whom we serve.

Safety

- I understand that I am expected to spend evenings with the larger group or with some part of the group. I will use any free time in a safe and responsible way. I will consult the trip leader before leaving during free time.
- I understand that as a visitor in the local communities I am not aware of local standards and guidelines for safety. Thus, I will abide by the guidelines given by program staff and host representatives.
- In the event of a medical or political emergency, I will respect the decision of the group leaders regarding actions to be taken.
- I understand and agree that if I have to leave the trip for any reason (policy violation, family emergency, illness, etc.), my involvement with the Loyola College in Maryland immersion program ends at the time that I leave the group.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

9/07

*Adapted from "Behavioral Expectations and Statement of Common Understanding,"  
Office of College Chaplains, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA.*