

# Missionary Preparation

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## Kimberly Idaho Stake



Congratulations on your desire to consider serving a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. You will be blessed as you prayerfully prepare yourself for this wonderful opportunity. The First Presidency wrote, "There is no more compelling work than this, nor any which brings greater satisfaction. The Lord will reward and richly bless you as you humbly and prayerfully serve Him. More happiness awaits you than you have ever experienced as you labor among His children."

Preparation for a mission is a personal matter, and begins in your own heart and mind, with assistance from your parents, your Bishop, and your Stake President. Be prayerful in your missionary preparation, and the Lord will guide you. You may find the following suggestions useful as you prepare yourself to serve.

## **While Attending High School and After Graduation**

- Read and study the Book of Mormon daily
- Read and Study [Preach My Gospel](#)
- Pray individually, every morning and evening
- Receive and maintain a temple recommend. Attend the Temple regularly as a youth
- Attend and graduate from Seminary
  - Understand the Doctrinal Mastery topics
- Participate in and complete the Children and Youth Program. Meet with your Bishop as the final step of this program
- Arrange to receive your Patriarchal Blessing. Meet with your Bishop and he will give you a recommend to take to the Stake Patriarch
- Regularly attend the Stake Mission Prep Class
- Work, save, and make arrangements for your financial support during your mission. A mission costs \$400 per month and may change to \$500. Discuss paying for a mission with your family and Bishop
- Regularly participate in Family History work. Learn how to prepare, print, and take names to the Temple
- Become familiar with the Missionary Resources available online at <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/callings/missionary>
  - Learn about the difference between Full-Time Missions and Service Missions
- You can start to do missionary work now! Learn about the [Love, Share, Invite](#) program, and how you can share the gospel in natural ways during your youth
- Remain or become worthy. Discuss struggles with parents and Bishop. Learn to repent.
  - Become familiar with the [Missionary Recommendation Interview Questions](#). Commit now to following the standards represented by these questions. Pay special attention to following the Law of Chastity and the Word of Wisdom.

## **180-120 Days Before Availability Date**

- Begin meeting with your Bishop for a Pre-mission interview. Parents are welcome to come to this meeting. There will be continuing interviews with the Bishop during this process
- Create a [churchofjesuschrist.org](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org) user account
- After the Bishop has initiated your online missionary application, sign in to the Missionary Portal at [missionaryrecommendations.churchofjesuschrist.org/](https://missionaryrecommendations.churchofjesuschrist.org/)
- Complete the application completely, honestly, and accurately
- Arrange for medical and dental exams as required in the instructions. Arrange for all required medical and dental work to be completed. Have the completed reports mailed to the Bishop. (Ask him for envelopes if needed) Make sure all standard vaccinations are up to date
- Review Dress and Grooming Guidelines  
[www.churchofjesuschrist.org/callings/missionary/dress-and-appearance](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/callings/missionary/dress-and-appearance)
- Have a passport-style digital photo taken. This picture will be included in the missionary application. The photo should be taken with a white background. Before taking the picture, get a missionary-approved haircut. Dress in missionary attire, and be sure to smile! Remember, an Apostle of God will be looking at this photo as he receives inspiration to make your call
- Complete the missionary application. Arrange to meet with the Bishop and go over your application. The Bishop will then fill in his portion and send it on to the Stake President along with your medical paperwork
- After the Bishop's interview, call the Stake Executive Secretary and schedule an interview with the Stake President. He will interview you and if all is in order he will submit your paperwork to the Mission Department no earlier than 120 days before your availability
- Arrange with the Bishop to start attending a Temple Preparation class
- If you do not have a passport or if your current passport will expire during your mission, it may be prudent to have a current one, even if you are called to a mission within the United States. Go to <https://pptform.state.gov/> to start a new or renewal application
- For Young Men: As you approach 18 years of age make an appointment to meet with the Bishop to receive the Melchizedek Priesthood. He will interview you and give you a recommend to take to the Stake President. You will need to make that appointment with the Stake Executive Secretary after you meet with the Bishop

## **After Receiving Mission Call**

- Accept your mission call by completing and signing the acceptance form. Your acceptance triggers a follow-up letter of instructions from your Mission President, and it is important to get that letter promptly. Your Mission President may suggest some additional mission preparation, such as obtaining certain clothing, receiving additional vaccines, or arranging for electronic devices
- Your Missionary Portal will also have some items that you need to complete prior to starting your mission
- Review [Adjusting to Missionary Life](#). Learn ways to handle stress that are missionary approved
- Review [Missionary Standards for Disciples of Jesus Christ](#). Start following these standards immediately
- Make plans to attend the Temple and receive your Endowment. To do so, you must complete the following:
  - Receive your mission call
  - Be 18 years or older
  - Graduate from high school
  - Complete the Temple Preparation Course
  - Receive the Melchizedek Priesthood, if you are male
  - Complete a Temple Recommend interview with the Bishop
  - Complete a Temple Recommend interview with the Stake President
  - Call the Temple to schedule your endowment session. Tell them you are a new missionary and will be attending for your own “Living Endowment.” You will need an escort for your first session, and the Temple may ask for the name of that person. Typically, the escort would be a parent or other endowed adult
  - Many Temples now require you to have your own temple clothing, which can be purchased at Church Distribution (part of Deseret Book)
- Once you have received your own endowment, attend the Temple as often as is practical
- Continue attending Stake Mission Prep Class
- Make arrangements to renew your driver’s license, if it will expire during your mission
- Expand your spiritual preparation
  - Read and study your scriptures daily
  - Pray always
  - Study Preach my Gospel
- Stay worthy! Satan will work hard on you at this time of your preparation
- Meet regularly with your Bishop. It is normal to feel some anxiety and apprehension about going. Stay strong, stay committed, and the Lord will be with you every step of the way