

Youth Service Missions

The following is intended to help church leaders and families in the Pleasant View Utah South stake understand a little more about youth service missions and how they can bless the lives of our members.

Who can serve a youth service mission?

Worthy young men (ages 18 to 25) and young women (ages 19 to 25) who are unable to serve a proselyting mission for physical, mental, or emotional reasons may be called to a youth service mission. A worthy young man who is unable to serve a proselyting mission does not have a priesthood duty to serve a youth service mission.

The default is 24 months for Elders and 18 months for sisters. But this can be adjusted if it is determined to be the best fit for the calling. The stake president would approve a shorter mission if need be and families should not make a request for this but council with their stake president.

Proselyting missionaries who return home early due to accident, illness, or other health conditions and have a desire to continue their service may be reassigned to a service mission if recommended by General Authorities in the Missionary Department and the stake president and approved by the Quorum of the Twelve.

What is our youth service mission area?

We live in the North Service Mission. There are about 50 service missionaries serving in this mission at the time of this writing.

Elder Rich Zollinger and Sister Leslie Zollinger are the current mission leaders for our youth service mission area. They are willing to visit with wards and stakes to answer questions, provide information, speak, and otherwise help others understand service missions more. They work closely with families and missionaries to make assignments that are a fit for them and their needs. However, a service missionary's ecclesiastical leader is their home stake president. They continue to meet with their stake president regularly.

What is the process for being called on a youth service mission?

The process is basically the same as all full-time missionaries. They apply through the exact same process.

1. They meet with their bishop first and eventually with their stake president. They must meet all regular worthiness and missionary standards.
2. A bishop and/or stake president may recommend that a missionary applicant be considered for a service mission.

3. The final decision is made by the missionary department under the direction of the Quorum of the 12 Apostles.
4. If a service mission is extended, the applicant will be notified when they receive their call. The mission call will indicate the time frame of the mission.
5. They then meet with the Stake President and the Youth Service Mission Leaders to determine the best assignment(s) for the missionary.
6. The Stake President will set the missionaries apart soon before they start their mission.

How do youth service missionaries get assigned to various areas of service?

After the call has been made and the missionary has been assigned to the local service mission, they and their family meet with the service mission leaders. In council with them and the stake president, assignments are made. These assignments can change during their mission and be adjusted based on the missionary's capacity and experience. Their stake president approves all assignments before they are given.

What types of assignments can youth service missionaries be given in our area?

This is not an exhaustive list, but the following are examples of real assignments given to service missionaries in our area.

- Temples - Office, maintenance, grounds, greeting, support, laundry, and many other opportunities are given to service missionaries.
- Temple Baptistry - Many get assigned to these and many more will be in the near future.
- Church Global Services - Assignments can be made in the church technical department or other departments that support service efforts with a wide range of duties.
- North Ogden Peach Orchard - Equipment experts, harvest experts, grounds, and maintenance assignments.
- Family History Center - Helping others with family history, technical support, and maintenance assignments.
- Deseret Industries - Receiving, coordinating, cashiering, maintenance and many other assignments and opportunities.
- Deseret Manufacturing - Building the furniture that is sold in Deseret Industry stores.
- Cannery - Production, office, and other assignments.
- Bishop's Storehouse - Shopping for those with orders, greeting, stocking, support, and many other opportunities.
- Adaptive Needs Institute - Supporting students from schools like Canyon School with reading and other programs.
- Deseret Mill and Pasta - Production, support, and other assignments.
- OWCAP Ogden Weber Community Action Partnership - Service opportunities that support the organization's aims and efforts including Head Start programs.
- Catholic Community Services - Service opportunities that support the organization's aims and efforts.
- United Way - Working directly with children as a mentor and leader. Other service opportunities that support the organization's aims and efforts.

- Salvation Army - Service opportunities that support the organization's aims and efforts.
- Ogden Dinosaur Park - Support, maintenance, customer service, and other assignments.
- Ogden Nature Center - Support, maintenance, customer service, and other assignments.
- Bicycle Collective - Support, maintenance, customer service, and other assignments.
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Building Maintenance - Various assignments that support church properties and buildings.
- Presenting at local ward sacrament programs under the invitation of local bishops.
- Other assignments with stakes given by stake presidents.
- Assignments to serve their own families like grandparents and others with needs.

What can youth service missionaries do while on their mission?

Youth service missionaries follow mission rules and standards like any other missionary. They don't date, attend dances and the like. They live at home and attend their home ward unless their assignment(s) take them elsewhere. They may also attend their local YSA ward. They can attend family vacations and outings if such events are compliant with their mission rules.

Youth service missionaries are encouraged to attend BYU Pathways and can do so while serving their mission. It is a free benefit while they are serving.

Resources

Youth Service Missions

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/service-missionary/a-service-mission?lang=eng>

Youth Service missionaries

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/service-missionary?lang=eng>

A customized experience

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/service-missionary/a-custom-experience?lang=eng>

Candidates and parents

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/service-missionary/candidate-and-parent?lang=eng>

Church leaders

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/service-missionary/leaders?lang=eng>