

Service Missions: A Guide for Stake and District Presidents

This document provides a short review of the program and your responsibilities as a stake or district president.

Service Missionaries

The individual talents, skills, and gifts of some worthy young adult men and women may make it more suitable for them to serve a service mission. The service missionary program allows them to use their talents and abilities to serve the Lord in meaningful ways. Service missionaries may also include those who come home early from teaching missions. The standards for worthiness are the same for all missionaries.

Service missions are not required for those who are excused from teaching missions. No one should feel pressured to serve. Service missions are an option for those who want to serve the Lord in this way.



Your Responsibilities

You have five primary responsibilities:

- Identify those who could serve a teaching or service mission.
- With the help of the service mission leader, develop a unique mission for service missionary candidates after they have received their call.
- Set apart missionaries. Give them the service missionary name badge and the *Service Missionary Handbook*.
- Support and regularly interview the missionaries during their service.
- Release missionaries at the end of their service.

How to Support

You are the service missionary's ecclesiastical leader. You set the spiritual and behavioral expectations.

You may assign another priesthood leader to help oversee the missionary's service. This leader could be one of your counselors, a high councilor, or a member of your stake. You or the leader you assign may adopt the following supporting responsibilities:

1. Provide weekly support to make sure the missionary is:
 - a. Following the example of Jesus Christ and living Church standards.
 - b. Giving meaningful service.
 - c. Having regular gospel study and prayer.
 - d. Building life skills.
 - e. Having a good missionary experience.
 - f. Following the rules and commitments in the *Service Missionary Handbook*.

2. Encourage gospel study and spiritual development.
3. Make sure parents or guardians are involved in the mission experience.
4. Oversee the service missionary program in the stake.
5. Inform members about the service missionary program in stake meetings and other settings.
6. When missionaries receive their assignment, meet with them to review the *Service Missionary Handbook*.

Questions?

- Contact your service mission leader.
- Visit [ChurchofJesusChrist.org/service-missionary](https://www.ChurchofJesusChrist.org/service-missionary).
- Call the Service Mission Office in Salt Lake City at 1-801-240-4914 or email at support-servicemission@churchofjesuschrist.org.

