

## **Support for International Change Application 2012**

This application has five sections. Please type your answers directly below the questions and submit your application BY EMAIL to [apply@sichange.org](mailto:apply@sichange.org). Your answers should be included both in the body of the message and as a MS Word (.doc, not .docx) or PDF file attachment. The attachment should be named School\_LastName\_Initial (I.e. Sarah Smith from Claremont would title her application ClaremontSmithS.doc). You will receive an email confirming receipt of your application. You can download an electronic copy of this application from our website: [www.sichange.org](http://www.sichange.org)

### **Please indicate the program(s) for which you are applying:**

May 22-July 17      June 19-Aug 14      July 19-Sep 14      Sep 20-Dec 13

### **Section 1: Biographic Information**

Name:

University:

Class: Freshman      Sophomore      Junior      Senior      Fifth Year      Graduate

Major:

University ID Number:

Age on Program Start Date:

Preferred email address:

Non-university email address (if the above is a university email):

Local Phone:

Permanent Address:

How did you hear about SIC?

What did you find most helpful in providing information about our 2012 volunteer programs (campus informational sessions, fliers, website, other)?

### **Section 2: SIC Policy Acceptance**

#### **Please read the following carefully. You will be held to these policies.**

1. Pre-field preparation is a crucial aspect of the SIC experience. A series of mandatory meetings will be held during Spring Semester / Quarter at a time convenient for group members. Acceptance into an SIC program is conditional on regular attendance at these meetings. Do you understand that you may lose your place in the program if you do not attend SIC pre-field meetings?

Yes      No

Exceptions may be granted to volunteers who will be away from their home campus during the spring. If this applies to you, please contact program staff.

2. It is likely that our project sites will not be served by public transport and there is sometimes no alternative to walking. Are you willing and able to walk 4 miles each day unassisted? Do you understand that there may be occasions when you will be required to carry all of your own luggage over rough terrain?

Yes      No

If no, please contact program staff.

3. A \$500 deposit will be due 14 days after acceptance. The balance of the program fee will be due 45 days before the program start date. All payments are non-refundable. Failure to meet these deadlines may result in loss of place in the program, or in late fees. In addition, it is your responsibility to be familiar with all SIC tax deduction policies for fundraising purposes. You should contact the SIC coordinator at your school if you have any questions or concerns.

Do you understand and accept these financial policies?

Yes      No

4. Any kind of travel or work overseas is potentially hazardous. Although program staff will provide detailed health and safety information, and will work hard to minimize volunteers' exposure to danger, an inherent risk will remain. Do you understand that participation in an SIC program is at your own risk and that you will be required to sign a liability release form?

Yes      No

5. Do you understand that if you do not hold a valid passport, your acceptance will be conditional on obtaining one at least 2 months before the start of your program?

Yes      No

### **Section 3: Relevant Background**

**Applicants are not necessarily expected to have experience in all areas. This information helps us to create balanced teaching groups. Please limit your responses to a total of 600 words (not 600 words per question).**

1. List your previous volunteer experiences, with dates.
2. Briefly describe your previous teaching experiences (both formal and informal).
3. Briefly describe your previous leadership experiences.
4. Briefly describe your previous international travel experiences.
5. Have you taken or do you intend to take any Swahili courses? If so, please give details.

### **Section 4: Short Answer Questions**

**Please answer the following questions.**

- 1) Provide a brief statement of purpose. How does volunteering with SIC fit into your long-term plans? (150 words)
- 2) Much of your work with SIC will be in a small teaching group. Describe a conflict that you have faced while working in a group, as well as how the conflict was resolved. (200 words)
- 3) In what ways can you, as an American volunteer, contribute to the struggle against HIV/AIDS in rural Tanzanian communities? Do you see any potential negative effects of your presence? (200 words)
- 4) Although Tanzanian government policy supports correct and consistent condom use as an effective option for preventing the spread of HIV, some groups strongly oppose their use. Sometimes, religious leaders or teachers will resist education that includes information about proper condom use. How should SIC address the issue of education about condoms in schools and in the community? (200 word limit)
- 5) While most scientists agree that HIV evolved from similar viruses in monkeys, there are many other controversial theories about the origins of AIDS in Tanzania. Some suggest that HIV was created in a laboratory in America. Others claim that AIDS is a punishment from God. If someone in one of your classes asked you where HIV came from, how would you respond? (200 words)
- 6) Think of a question that you wish had been asked on this application. Then, answer the question and tell us why you think this question should have been included. (250 words)

### **Section 5: Additional Information**

1) To make certain that SIC is able to best protect the health and safety of volunteers, please let us know if you have any medical conditions (mental or physical), health needs (including allergies), or any other condition you are currently being treated for.

2) Program fees and fundraising will be discussed in pre-field training. Do you plan on paying your program fee via direct personal/family fundraising, other fundraising (grants, corporate sponsorships) or a combination of both? Do you have any specific fundraising ideas?