

Gap+ Application



Personal Details

Your Full Name:

Age and Date of Birth:

Gender: Male Female

Passport Number:

Date of Expiry (Day/Month/Year):

Mother's Full Name:

Father's Full Name:

Legal Guardian's Full Name:

Live with: Mother Father Both Guardian Alone

Home Phone Contact Number:

Mobile Phone Contact Numbers

- Personal:
- Mother:
- Father:
- Guardian:

Home Address:

Skype Name:

Email:

If applicable, University Name:

Following are questions to help us get to know you better. Be honest with your answers - living in another country is a wonderfully unique, rewarding opportunity but it does have its challenges. If you let your personality and real thoughts come through, it will help all of us ensure that your Ceiba experience is everything it can be. Don't worry if you don't have any international experience to this point in your life, it doesn't disqualify you from Ceiba. There are plenty of challenges that can come up at home in all different forms and we are more interested in how you've worked with those challenges than how many places you've been. There are no wrong answers, just give these questions some thought and we look forward to learning more about you!

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1. Why are you applying for the Ceiba Gap+ program? What do you expect to get out of your experience?

2. Which service project are you most interested in? Why?

There are limited places in each project and your first choice may be full. What is another project that interests you?

3. Do you have some knowledge of Spanish? How have you learned Spanish and for how long have you been speaking Spanish? Do you speak any other languages (besides English)?

4. Do you have experience living or traveling in a foreign country?

- If so, what do you remember most from those experiences?
- If not, and if you had a chance to travel anywhere in the world at no cost, where would it be and why?

5. Have you spent an extended period of time away from your family before?

6. What do you feel may be the one most challenging aspect of participating in the Ceiba program for you? How will you prepare to best overcome this challenge?

7. Guatemala is a country of endless wonder and with a warm, inviting culture. However, there are times, especially when taking part in your service projects, where you will find yourself well outside your comfort zone. Briefly describe another time when you have been pushed out of your comfort zone, and how you responded.

8. How comfortable are you with outdoor activities (hiking and camping)? It's fine if you've never been, we're just interested in your willingness to hike and/or camp as part of your program.

9. Tell us about a project you completed that you are particularly proud of. Was this a group effort or your own work? What did you feel was the most challenging part of this project?

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Personal Introduction

This is your chance to show us who you are. You can make any kind of presentation (video, photo, written, music, art, whatever you choose!), and you can express yourself in any way that you'd like. This is all about you, so be as creative as you can and show us what makes you unique!

If you choose a presentation that can be emailed, please send it to scott@ceibaexplore.org.

If you choose some kind of video presentation, it is completely up to you as to what the presentation looks like. You have 3 minutes to make your video and you can use as much of that time as you'd like. If needed, under the video window are some questions that you can use to help guide your introduction but don't feel that you need to use all or any of these questions. You can also use these questions for a written introduction or in any other way you'd like. Again, this is your chance to introduce yourself so be the star you are!

Video

If you were making a film of your own life, what stories would you want to include and why?

Is there someone in your life who has been an inspiration to you?

What was one moment in your life that caused you to rethink your priorities?

What does this quote mean to you: "Go as far as you can see; when you get there, you'll be able to see farther." -John Pierpont Morgan

What does this quote mean to you: "Whatever you think you can do or believe you can do, begin it. Action has magic, grace, and power in it." -Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe

Letter of Support

Please provide a letter of support for your application. This letter is to be from someone in your community (family member, teacher, boss, etc.) that can provide a character reference for you. Please ask your reference to include their contact information, just in case we have any further questions for them. Also, have your references email the letters to you in PDF format and then upload them to your application.

Letters should address your preparedness for the Ceiba program - your emotional, creative, and intellectual investment into different tasks that come your way. You will be working in communities far different than those you've grown up in, helping to facilitate and lead activities, effectively evaluating the performance of others in your group, and representing yourself, your service organization, and Ceiba in a dynamic creative way. Letters should talk about you as a whole person and how you would contribute to the Ceiba experience.

Interviews

As a final step to your application, you will have a phone or Skype interview with our Spanish teacher. This is to gauge your confidence with your spoken Spanish - it is not a vocabulary test but rather how comfortable you are when speaking, even if you don't have all the words. You will be interacting almost daily with local Guatemalans who don't speak any English at all so your comfort level is important. Again, it is not that you know all the words, it's that you do your best - your fluency will increase a thousand times over while you're in Guatemala!

There will also be a call from either Scott Garrison, Director of Education, or Kamillia Hoban, Director of Operations, so that we can answer any last questions or address any other concerns you have as we review all the applications.