

## **FAQS for NurseTim Haiti Trips**

### **How will I prepare for the trip?**

*Start by completing the checklist. There will be a series of conference calls prior to travel that will give you a better picture of how to prepare. It also gives you an opportunity to meet your peers.*

### **What accommodations can I expect at the guest house?**

*The guest house is a modern, comfortable house with a living room, kitchen and many bedrooms that house up to 4 people each. Each bedroom has a private bathroom. There is a microwave, drinkable water, shower, air conditioning (runs mostly at night), and normal AC-DC electricity. There is a wash machine available for use (for a small charge). If you plan to use it, bring your own detergent. At times, the power goes out and a generator is used for back up. Wi-fi is hit-or-miss, so do not rely on it.*

### **Will I be guaranteed a space in the guest house?**

*There is no guarantee that there will be enough space for everyone in the guest house. In that case, the nursing students attending FSIL graciously share their dorm facility, located on the same property. These buildings are older, without air conditioning, and they have a community bathroom.*

### **What is included for meals?**

*Two meals will be provided at the guest house daily. Breakfast typically includes toast, eggs, fruit and coffee. Dinner includes a meat, rice/pasta, and vegetables. Peanut butter, jelly, and bread are provided for lunches on-the-go. You are welcome to bring or purchase other items for your lunch such as, tuna packets, beef jerky, etc. There is a small store in town for basic groceries. Soda and bottled water are also available for purchase at the guest house.*

### **What is included for personal use?**

*The guest house will provide some basic linens, but you are encouraged to bring your own flat sheets sprayed with Permethrin to distract that lone mosquito at night. There are towels available but they are limited in supply. You are encouraged to bring your own beach towel, personal towels, toilet paper, and personal items.*

### **Is the water safe to drink?**

*Water at the Guest House is filtered and bottled water is available to refill personal water bottles. When outside FSIL, plan to ONLY drink bottled water. The humidity in Haiti masks your feeling of thirst – drink plenty and be sure your urine output is adequate.*

### **What will we do in the evenings and during down time?**

*Evening activities may include games, dances, or other social events with the FSIL Nursing Students. There will not be much down time -- your days and evenings are filled and you are up early each day to prepare for the day.*

**Will I have “homework”?**

*Each person is expected to keep a daily journal to record thoughts and insights. There will be a daily team building activity that will build community, networking, and debriefing. These are mandatory.*

**What are the FSIL Nursing Students like?**

*These students are bright, caring, and appreciative. Many appear quiet and shy around the American nursing students, as they are not English proficient in many cases. However, be patient and teach them as they teach you – there is great opportunity to learn from one another! Take time to listen to their thoughts and share in one another’s knowledge. Ultimately, remember that they are operating from a different culture. Be aware, sensitive, and accepting of cultural differences.*

**Are the trips tax deductible?**

*Here are the guidelines imposed by the IRS. <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/tips-for-taxpayers-who-travel-for-charity-work>*

**Will I be safe while in Haiti?**

*Dr. Bristol has been leading teams to Haiti for years. You can feel absolutely comfortable as safety is a high priority, and every precaution is taken to hire dedicated and experienced translators native to the country. The guest house/school grounds have security guards working around the clock. Transportation is provided by a trusted company that is trained to accommodate Americans. Safety is high on our priority list, but you must also take responsibility for your safety. **As with any trip to an unfamiliar place and a new culture, you need to always be aware of your surroundings and the activities going on around you, and the buddy system must be used at all times.***