Immunizations & Medications Required for Summer Programs 2027

The following immunizations and medications are **required or strongly recommended** for AMIGOS volunteers. AMIGOS consults our Medical Director, in-country Peace Corps offices, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines in establishing volunteer vaccine and medication requirements.

Note: The CDC highly recommends all international travelers (https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel) make an appointment to get recommended vaccines at least 4-6 weeks in advance.

Chicken Pox (Varicella)	Required for all Volunteers	All volunteers are required to have proof of immunization against chickenpox or documentation of immunity to chickenpox (Varicella IgG positive status).For persons without evidence of immunity, administer two doses of varicella vaccine if not previously vaccinated or the second dose if only one dose has been administered. The minimum interval between doses is 28 days.
Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis	Required for all Volunteers	All volunteers must have completed the DTaP or Tdap series. All volunteers must also have a booster Tdap (Adacel) within 10 years before travel. Please see the following link for more information: https://www.cdc.gov/tetanus/vaccines/index.html | CDC
Hepatitis A	Required for all Volunteers	The Hep A vaccine should be given at least two weeks before departure to their project. We recommend, when possible, that volunteers complete the 2-dose series before travel. A booster shot of Hep A should be given 6-12 months following the initial injection (this may be administered after the summer program).
Malaria	Required for the following projects: **All projects assigned to the Dominican Republic** **Costa Rica: Olas y Cerros** **Panama: Tierras Altas** **Panama: El Pacifico**	Required for all volunteers assigned to the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica: Olas y Cerros and Panama: Tierras Altas and El Pacifico projects. In addition to the following regimen, volunteers must bring high-quality insect repellant with a 20-40% concentration of DEET or Picaridin. **Recommended regimens include:** Atovaquone-proguanil: start 1 to 2 days prior to the project start date, continue throughout the stay and for 7 days after returning. Chloroquine: begin 1 to 2 weeks prior to project start date; continue while on the project and for 4 weeks after leaving the project, weekly on the same day each week. Doxycycline: Begin1 to 2 days prior to project start date; continue daily during travel and for 4 weeks after leaving project. Mefloquine: Begin ≥2 weeks before arrival to project, administer on the same day each week, and continue weekly during travel and for 4 weeks after leaving the project. Primaquine: Start 1 to 2 days prior to the project start date, once daily and continue while on the project and for 7 days after departure from the project. Tafenoquine: Start 3 days prior to project start date and take once a day for a total of 10 days, then once weekly, and one dose 7 days after departure from the project.
Measles/Mumps/ Rubella (MMR)	Required for all Volunteers	Volunteers are required to have had two doses of the measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine.
Polio	Required for all Volunteers	Volunteers are required to have completed a full series of polio vaccination. Unvaccinated adults or children should be given three doses of IPV at these recommended intervals: • The first dose at any time • The second dose 1 or 2 months later • A third dose 6 to 12 months after the second dose
Tuberculosis (TB) Screening Questionnaire	Required for all Volunteers	Volunteers should inform their physician(s) that they will be living in a rural area in Latin America and will complete the TB Questionnaire as part of the Physical Health Form.

Typhoid Fever	Required for all Volunteers	Volunteers can receive either an oral vaccine (4 capsules taken over 7days at least 1 week prior to departure) or an injection (to be received at least three weeks before departure). It is each volunteer's decision which method of administration to receive. Please note that the injectable vaccine is good for 2 years and the oral vaccine is good for up to 5 years. After these windows, volunteers will need repeat vaccination.
COVID-19	Strongly Recommended for Volunteers	AMIGOS **strongly recommends** volunteers to receive the most recent COVID-19 booster if they have received the primary series. For those who have never received a COVID vaccination, the CDC includes specific recommendations. The COVID-19 vaccination and booster help to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 to our partner organizations, communities, and host families, and reduces the risk of developing more serious infection for those who receive the vaccine.
Hepatitis B	Recommended for Volunteers	The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends all adolescents be vaccinated for Hepatitis B. Volunteers should discuss the Hepatitis B vaccine with their physician.
Influenza (Flu shot)	Recommended for Volunteers	Vaccination should be valid for current 2026-2027 flu season.
Meningitis (Menactra)	Recommended for all volunteers	Please visit the CDC for more information: Meningococcal Vaccine Recommendations | CDC (https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/mening/hcp/recommendations.html)
Rabies	Recommended for all volunteers	*Pre-Exposure:* There are two vaccinations available: Human Diploid Cell Vaccine (HDVC) and Purified Chick Embryo Cell Vaccine (PCEC). Please, consider the time necessary to complete vaccination and plan accordingly. There are two doses on days 0 and 7. *Post-Exposure:* If volunteers have been potentially exposed to rabies and did not receive the vaccinations pre-exposure, they will need to have human rabies immunoglobulin (HRIG) administered promptly in addition to the vaccinations administered over a series of days (Days 0, 3, 7, and 14). Post-exposure prevention of rabies for those who have received pre-exposure vaccines will not require use of HRIG but does require vaccinations over a shortened series of days (Days 0 and 3 only). **Human Rabies Immune globulin (HRIG) and the vaccines may be difficult to obtain in country and if the prophylaxis are not available the volunteer will be flown home or to Houston to receive them.* *For these reasons, rabies pre-exposure immunization is recommended for all volunteers. Volunteers should discuss this vaccine with their health care provider and check with their health insurance providers about coverage of the pre-exposure shots.
Yellow Fever	Recommended for all volunteers in Paraguay	Yellow Fever is endemic in these country. Typically, one dose of the vaccine is safe and provides life-long protection against yellow fever. For further information see this link: https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2018/infectious-diseases-related-to-travel/yellow-fever Note: Yellow fever vaccine availability in the United States is currently limited.