Top 10 Important ISI Q&As

1. **Who:** MPH students, M1 students, M3 elective students, MNSON students, graduate students, accompanied by nurses, physicians, public health practitioners, and chaplains.

2. **How many:** We have space to place 40 students on ISI trips.

3. **Where:** Possible sites include: Bolivia, Belize, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Israel

4. **How long:** Trips range from 10 days to 4 weeks in length

5. **When:** See site descriptions for particular dates. Trips run between May 19 - July 1.

6. **What costs are involved?**

   - Trips cost approximately $2,000-$3,500 per student to cover all expenses (airfare, ground transportation, housing, food, on-site support services, educational materials, building supplies, supplies and donations to each site). These expenses are covered through: (1) institutional support (2) HSD Ministry fundraising events, with ISI participants serving as volunteers, and (3) a participant fundraising commitment.

   - We require each participant to raise between $1,000 and $1,500 in donations, depending on the length of trip you attend. You can collect money from friends, family, and community organizations, or brainstorm your own ways to raise funds. When submitting your application, you must submit an initial payment of $250 towards this personal fundraising amount. This can be done via the online ISI donation website or via check, made payable to “Loyola University Chicago.” The remaining amount of your fundraising commitment must be submitted by **Friday, January 5, 2018.**

   - Deposits are non-refundable. Instead, your funds will be transferred to the larger ISI fundraising account for future trips.

   - Ministry coordinates several fundraisers during the academic year to secure additional funding for the trips. ISI participants are expected to contribute to these events through their volunteering presence, recruitment, and community building efforts. Some of the fundraisers may include: the annual Bistro Micetich dinner event, Cash & Carry sale, or Dinner Theater event.

   - As a Loyola Student, you must enroll in the University’s Travel Insurance policy, which will cost an additional **$45/month.** We will provide the enrollment information once you are accepted on ISI.

   - Immunizations for trips can cost **$300-400.** You are responsible for finding out what immunizations are necessary for your trip and obtaining them through your primary doctor, or Loyola’s Travel Clinic. Visit the CDC Travel website for more information: [http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel). We are here to help answer any questions regarding immunizations and will provide you with information on Loyola’s Travel Clinic.

   - ISI Participants agree to full and active participation in the itinerary as it is determined by Ministry and the partner organization, which is subject to change before or during your trip. Modifications to your participation in the itinerary or during the duration of your stay are accommodated only in emergency situations and must be approved by the Director of Ministry in advance.

*Please do not let cost be the primary factor in turning you away from ISI. If cost is an issue, please speak to one of the HSD Ministry staff and submit an application for sponsorship through the ISI Scholarship Fund.*
8. May I go if I have other plans for the summer?

YES. But you must discern wisely so that you are not overbooking your summer. While we have 1-week ISI options, for Medical students who have a strong desire to participate in a longer ISI trip as well as summer research, we encourage you to also consider other research opportunities that are equivalent to the Loyola-sponsored research experiences. You cannot participate in a two-week or a four-week ISI experience if you also plan to participate in the STAR program. If you have non-negotiable “black-out” date in the middle of an ISI trip, please work with Ministry to determine the best option for you.

9. What else will this require of me?

You should think of your participation in ISI as a 9-month commitment. The trip itself is a culminating moment, but the formation, fundraising, community-building, and follow-up reflection are also essential components of the overall experience. You can think of the total ISI commitment encompassing the following:

- 3-4 all-ISI Formation Meetings based on monthly themes of Ignatian spirituality and service immersion
- 2 trip-specific meetings scheduled by the staff and student leader on your trip
- Attendance at 3-4 Essential Topics in Global Health lectures
- 3-4 huddle meetings preparing for a major fundraiser. In the past, this event has been the Winter Dinner Theatre. All Hands on Deck!
- Community Health Training session: April, TBD
- Reflection & Evaluation: Giving back and making it better
  - All participants will submit a reflection project upon returning from an ISI experience
  - Evaluation: Both written evaluation and face-to-face debriefing sessions upon return
- Be available to assist with fundraising events and the preparation of future ISI participants during the 2018-2019 academic year. This includes, but is not limited to, information sessions for future students and Bistro Micetich (a kick off fundraiser the second weekend in September)

9. What is the process for application?

A. Applications will be live online by Friday, September 22: [http://hsd.luc.edu/isi/forms-applications/](http://hsd.luc.edu/isi/forms-applications/)
B. Complete all additional ISI forms (found on the above ISI website in the ISI Checklist) and submit a $250 initial fundraising contribution by 3 PM on Monday, October 23.
C. Interview with Ministry staff shortly thereafter. We will contact you about an appointment.
D. Placements will be announced at the Roll-Out Meeting on Monday, November 27 at 1:00 PM.

10. What’s the next step?

- Think seriously about your ability, enthusiasm, and commitment to all the goals and expectations regarding ISI.
- Consider your other options & plans: Research, family commitments, other professional and personal commitments.
- Talk with your family members & friends about your desire to do this (especially your parents/spouse).
- Talk with HSD Ministry staff to help sort-out any thoughts or concerns.
- If interested, complete the ISI online application on or before the deadline of Monday, October 23 at 3PM, complete all ISI Application Checklist items ([http://hsd.luc.edu/isi/forms-applications/](http://hsd.luc.edu/isi/forms-applications/)) and make your $250 contribution toward your personal fundraising commitment.