



Frequently Asked Questions

Peace Corps Operations in Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala

Please refer to Peace Corps news releases on these programs, available here:

Peace Corps Reviews Operations in Honduras, December 21, 2011

www.peacecorps.gov/index.cfm?shell=resources.media.press.view&news_id=1932

Peace Corps Reviews Operations in El Salvador and Guatemala, December 21, 2011

www.peacecorps.gov/index.cfm?shell=resources.media.press.view&news_id=1933

Q: Is Peace Corps/Honduras closing?

A: The Peace Corps has temporarily paused its Volunteer operations in Honduras while the agency conducts a full safety and security assessment. All currently serving Volunteers have safely returned to their homes of record in the United States on administrative leave for a 30- day period. Following the safety and security assessment, the Peace Corps will make a final decision on whether to continue Volunteer operations in Honduras. If the Peace Corps determines not to continue Volunteer operations in Honduras, all Volunteers currently on administrative leave will be granted an early close of service status.

Q: What happens to the projects that Volunteers have been working on in Honduras?

A: Peace Corps Volunteers worldwide work in collaboration with local partners to address host country development priorities and meet community needs. Peace Corps Volunteers work to support projects that can be sustained by local communities long after the Volunteer has completed service. Volunteers serving in Honduras have been encouraged to remain in contact with their community partners while they are on administrative leave. Nonetheless, the Peace Corps recognizes that there will be some disruption to Volunteer projects.

Q: Was there one specific incident in Honduras that led the Peace Corps to decide to remove Volunteers from Honduras and place them on administrative leave?

A: There was not one specific incident that led the Peace Corps to remove Volunteers from Honduras. The safety and security of all Peace Corps Volunteers is the agency's highest priority, and the Peace Corps closely monitors the safety and security climate in all countries in which it operates. After a detailed review of safety data, the Peace Corps determined it was necessary to temporarily pause operations in Honduras while a more in-depth assessment of safety and security conditions can be conducted.



Frequently Asked Questions

Peace Corps Operations in Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala

Q: Are the Peace Corps programs in El Salvador and Guatemala closing?

A: The Peace Corps is committed to continuing its operations in El Salvador and Guatemala to the fullest extent possible given safety and security considerations. The agency has postponed its upcoming Volunteer training classes for El Salvador and Guatemala while it enhances operational support to Volunteers currently serving in these countries. Over the next several months, the Peace Corps will also reduce the length of service requirements for some Volunteers and consolidate operations to smaller geographical areas in El Salvador and Guatemala. During this time period, the Peace Corps will continue to closely monitor the safety and security climate and to enhance Volunteer support.

Q: When will the Peace Corps send more Volunteers to El Salvador and Guatemala?

A: Once the Peace Corps has consolidated its operations in El Salvador and Guatemala to smaller geographical areas, the agency will determine the appropriate time frame to send future Volunteers.

Q: What additional safety and security measures is the Peace Corps considering in Central America?

A: The Peace Corps will consolidate its operations to smaller geographical areas in El Salvador and Guatemala over the next several months. The Peace Corps will also develop alternative transportation options for Volunteers to safely travel in each country. The Peace Corps will continue to closely monitor the safety and security climate and to enhance Volunteer support in these countries.

ABOUT PEACE CORPS/ HONDURAS:

Peace Corps has operated in Honduras since 1963. More than 5,500 Americans have served in Honduras since the program was established, working with communities on projects focused on health and HIV/AIDS prevention, water sanitation and youth development.

ABOUT PEACE CORPS/ EL SALVADOR:

Peace Corps operated in El Salvador between 1962 and 1979, and returned in 1993. Over 2,000 Americans have served in El Salvador since the program was established, working with communities on projects focused on community, economic, and youth development. There are 113 volunteers currently serving in El Salvador.

ABOUT PEACE CORPS/GUATEMALA:

Peace Corps has operated in Guatemala since 1963. Over 4,800 Americans have served in Guatemala since the program was established, working with communities on projects focused on health, youth development, environment and agriculture. There are 222 volunteers currently serving in Guatemala.