2027 GUIDEBOOK

MESA INTERN SUMMER

WEST AFRICA



Mesa Global



Letter from the Team Leaders

We want to thank you for your interest in participating in a cross-cultural immersion internship this coming summer! Your openness to explore this unique opportunity is already an indication that the Lord is at work in your heart and life as you ask yourself, “Where do I fit in the Great Commission and in what God is doing in the world?”

Before our family launched into a life of cross-cultural ministry in Senegal, we made several short-term trips that the Lord used to reaffirm our calling and better help us to understand His unique plan for our life. It is our hope that this internship will be one of the channels that the Lord will use to continue to guide you toward His goal for your life and your engagement in global missions.

We are excited to experience this sumer with you as you discover God’s heart for the nations, discover God’s world in the context of multi-cultural Senegal, and discover His call for your life as He uses this unique experience to speak to you. From the urban context of Dakar, to the hot, dusty villages of the unreached north, to the green forests of the southern region, our team looks forward to walking alongside you as you experience the breadth of Gospel work in this strategic region that is dominated by Islam and spiritual darkness.

We hope that you will soon join us around a common bowl of rice and fish as you discover strategic cross-cultural missions first hand!

In Christ,



Matt & Gayle Boyd
Team Leaders
Romans 15:20





LET'S JUMP IN

Looking to spend a summer using your skills to help reach the unreached?

As a Mesa Intern in West Africa, you will experience cross-cultural immersion alongside both global workers and strong national partners in a variety of contexts. Our team's vision is: To reach, mobilize, and equip West Africans for a life of missional service to their neighbors and the nations! The dominating majority religion in our context is Islam and therefore the spiritual climate can be challenging yet full of opportunities to engage with the unreached all around us.

Life and ministry during your summer with us would be a unique blend of engaging prayerfully in busy city life as well as supporting and encouraging work in more rural settings. Your time will be full of prayer walks, learning from national believers, engaging in spiritual formation conversations, and exploring how your gifts can support and encourage the work here.

Ultimately, our prayer is that you will walk away from this summer having learned more about who God is and how He has uniquely crafted you to partake in the work of His kingdom, whether cross-culturally or otherwise. We hope to see you grow in dependence on the one who made you, knows you, and calls you His own!

INTERNSHIP DETAILS

What to Expect

Explore program deadlines, what to expect in your 8 weeks, and where you'll be located if you join the summer internship.

Summer Details

June 4 - July 30, 2027
Cost: $2,900 + airfare

Application Deadline

Apply by Feb. 1, 2027

Fundraising Deadline

Funds in full by May 1, 2027

- Experience **cross-cultural immersion** in a predominantly Muslim context in West Africa.
- Participate in **language classes** to connect with people and culture and engage others at a heart level.
- Be equipped through **cross-cultural training** and **spiritual formation.**
- **Serve in locally-led churches and ministries** with the hopes of finding doors for gospel advancement.
- Have weekly **rhythms alongside other Mesa Workers** in our context.

SUMMER INTERN

Week in the life

Every week on the field is different! But here are some rhythms to expect each week of your summer internship.

- **Worship at a local church**
  1 day per week
- **Sabbath rest**
  1 day per week
- **Prayer walks**
  1-2x per week
- **Language classes**
  3x per week
- **Cross cultural training & spiritual formation**
  3x per week
- **Team gatherings/meetings**
  1x per week
- **Observing & serving in local ministries**
  1x per week
- **Personal mentoring & debriefing**
  Several times per week







See day in the life posts from our interns by heading to our “Interns” story highlight on Instagram



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Living & Weekly Rhythms

What will the church placement be like?

During your time in the capital city, you will visit a few different local congregations alongside other workers. During your time in our more rural context, you will participate in a small, locally-run house church.

Where will I live?

Your time will be divided between two different locations. In the city, housing will be found for you, likely in an apartment with other interns or workers living in our context or on the campus of our training center. During your time in our rural setting, you will have some agency in whether you want to do a homestay with trusted community members, or have accommodations found for you in an apartment in town. All of this will be discussed with you well before your arrival here.

How do you decide which ministry I'll be placed at?

You will be quickly introduced to our local version of Uber called Yango! Getting around the big city this way is very accessible and safe. When you are spending time in the rural setting and surrounding villages, you will travel alongside a teammate with a car, although a fair bit of walking will be part of your cultural engagement.

What do program costs cover?

The program cost covers all your living expenses during your time in West Africa. This includes food, lodging, public transportation within the city, and regional transportation as needed. Airfare to and from West Africa is in addition to the program cost.

Language Learning

How will I learn the local language?

We will get you partnered with a language helper soon upon your arrival in the country. You will be using the GPA method 3 times a week to get a taste of what learning language looks like in our context. You will also have ample time to practice language in the community on a regular basis.

What is the GPA method?

The Growing Participator Approach (GPA) Method is focused on listening and then speaking in the early stages. It is geared toward getting you to be able to verbally communicate more quickly.

Safety & Healthcare

Is your context safe?

Despite regional instability, our country remains to be a lower risk country according to the US Department of State. The capital city is busy and full of traffic. As in any large city, some crime and petty theft does exist. Our rural context is safe with strong national partners and local friends ready to look out for our team and its members. During your orientation, we will cover personal safety and security to help you live safely and confidently.

What about healthcare?

The healthcare system in our country is reasonably good. Should you have an emergency, there are international hospitals that are equipped for your care and even have some English speaking doctors.







Quiz

Is a Summer Missions Program For Me?

Let's see if you check some boxes:

- [ ] I'm available for 8 weeks this summer
- [ ] I'm a follower of Jesus and wanting to grow spiritually
- [ ] I'm adaptable and teachable
- [ ] I want to serve in a cross-cultural environment
- [ ] I'm willing to raise funds for this role

__ / 5 Score



NEXT STEPS

Get Connected

Ready to explore serving and training in missions for a summer in Thailand? We'd love to chat with you!

Step 01: APPLY

Submit a **Mesa Intern Application** for a summer of service. Then, our mobilization team will reach out with next steps!

HAVE A QUESTION? ASK OUR DIRECTOR OF MOBILIZATION & ONBOARDING, JENNIFER, AT JMCINNIS@MESAGLOBAL.CO

Step 02: FOLLOW US

Don't miss a beat & follow us on social media to keep up to date with news, stories from the field, tips for serving cross-culturally, and more!


WE HOPE TO SEE
YOU IN WEST
AFRICA!