



ACTION TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

Each candidate must:

- Be aged between 18 and 23 at the start of the programme
- Be a committed Christian involved in their local church
- Have some sense of understanding of the task and purpose of mission
- Have the unreserved backing of the sending church
- Be able to perform within a team
- Have a willingness to submit to authority, especially that of overseas partners
- Evidence of flexibility and resilience to changing/ difficult circumstances
- Have a clean criminal record (BMS will administer an enhanced disclosure through the Disclosure and Barring Service)
- Be declared medically fit to travel by Health Link 360 (BMS will administer this process). Ordinarily, InterHealth will require participants to be free from symptoms and treatment of most psychological health issues for at least one year
- Agree to adhere to the BMS Action Teams code of conduct for the duration of their time on the programme

In addition, possessing some of the following attributes is desirable, though not essential:

- Other specific gifts or skills that are transferable to an Action Team placement e.g. children's work, sport, drama, music, bible knowledge, public speaking etc.
- Knowledge of BMS World Mission
- Experience of Baptist life in the UK

Whilst we understand it's a really difficult thing for you to talk about, it is really important that you are up front and honest with us about any health issues you may have. This is particularly important for when we (and Health Link 360) ask you about your history of psychological health difficulties. This includes things like depression, self-harm, anxiety, anorexia, bulimia, substance abuse, insomnia and ADHD. We promise we won't judge you or discriminate against you, but your safety and well-being are our top priority. Sometimes the stresses of certain overseas environments, or the removal of your normal support systems can cause reoccurrence or exacerbation of past or existing health problems and we would hate to put you into a context which would be detrimental to your health. We're used to accommodating a range of health issues, and will always try our best to do so. If anything comes up between Encounter and the start of training, please do let us know also. Thanks for your cooperation.

With this in mind, please note that because of the additional stresses of living and working overseas, the absence of your normal support networks and the difficulty of providing remote psychological support we are unable to accept you onto the Action Team programme if you have experienced any of the following within 9 months of the training programme starting at the beginning of September:

- Self harming
- Series of panic attacks
- Undertaken or about to commence Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT)
- Adjusted the levels of any medication being taken for any psychological health conditions such as depression or anxiety

