

2025 Deep Impact Vehicle Policy

The success of Deep Impact Mission Weeks depends on adequate transportation for all mission teams for the entire week. Each participating church is not only responsible for providing transportation for their group's travel to and from the Mission Week, but also providing the use of their transportation throughout the week for mission teams. Approved drivers for each vehicle your church provides will serve as drivers for their assigned mission team for the week. All drivers (regardless of vehicle) will be required to see that all participants traveling in their vehicles wear seat belts and that they operate the vehicle safely and within the law.

Mission Teams will consist of 2 to 3 adults and 9 to 10 students depending on the project and the size of the vehicle. It is important that each church bring enough vehicles to allow a ratio of 1 vehicle (or combination of vehicles) per 11 to 13 participants (students and adults).

For example:

- If your church has 40 participants, you will need to provide enough vehicles for 3 mission teams (3 teams of 11 to 13 participants)
- If your church has 35 participants, you will need to provide enough vehicles for 3 mission teams (3 teams of 11 to 13 participants)
- If your church has 20 participants, you will need to provide enough vehicles for 2 mission teams (2 teams of 11 to 13 participants)
- If your church has 11 participants, you will need to provide enough vehicles for 1 mission team of 11 to 13 participants.

Most churches use 15-passenger vans (either church owned or rented) for the Mission Week. Some use a combination of 15-passenger vans and personal vehicles. Just be sure that the number of vehicles you bring is adequate for mission teams (including supplies for the mission site and coolers for lunches and water). If you need any assistance confirming the number of vehicles needed for the Mission Week, please contact Brandon Powell, Deep Impact Director.

Due to the nature of mission trips and the necessity for adequate and accessible transportation, **coach buses (whether church owned or hired) are not suitable for our Deep Impact Mission Weeks.** Groups that choose to travel in coach bus are still responsible for providing adequate transportation for mission teams as described above (whether personal vehicles or rented vans) and should notify Brandon Powell as soon as possible.

Important Safety Information Concerning 15-Passenger Vans

There is an increased risk of accidents for using *older model* (eg. Econoline-style vans of any make) 15-passenger vans when people or weight of any kind are placed in the rear seat (or in the area of the rear seat, for those vans which have had the rear seat removed). Weight in this (extended) area of the van has been found to make the vehicle unstable in the event of an emergency (such as when the driver turns sharply in order to avoid an accident). Because of this increased risk of accidents involving 15-passenger vans due to this weight distribution problem, Deep Impact will not send mission teams out assigning participants to ride in the back seat of 15-passenger vans. Furthermore, this space (in the back-seat area of the van) is not to be used by our teams to transport equipment, supplies, or anything else that would add weight to this area of the van.

Therefore, **the maximum number of people that we will assign to any older model 15-passenger van will be 11 participants. Newer model 15-passenger vans will be allowed a maximum of 13-passengers.**

We realize our Deep Impact transportation policies may require your group to bring more vehicles than you originally planned. The very nature of mission trips necessitates adequate vehicles for all teams. We appreciate your cooperation in making the Mission Week a successful and life-impacting week for all participants and those we serve on our sites.

Each vehicle must have an updated and stocked first-aid kit in them at all times.

2025 Deep Impact Vehicle Acknowledgement

I have read and understand the Deep Impact Vehicle Policy regarding transportation for our groups participation in Deep Impact Mission Weeks. I also understand that we must provide coolers for each vehicle as indicated in the packing list, and that each vehicle is required to have an updated and stocked first-aid kit in them at all times.

Date: _____

Church Name: _____

Deep Impact Mission Week Date and Location: _____

Printed Name of Group Leader: _____

Signature of Group Leader: _____

PLEASE EMAIL THIS FORM TO DEEPIIMPACT@NCBAPTIST.ORG AT LEAST 3 WEEKS PRIOR TO CAMP