

GLOBAL LINKS POLICY

ADOPTED GLOBAL NMI EXECUTIVE COUNCIL - DECEMBER 2019

Purpose

Links is a Nazarene Missions International (NMI) program that strives to join Nazarene missionaries and Church of the Nazarene districts through relationship and connection.

Global Scope

Global guidelines apply to all regions. Additional regional specific processes and procedures, sensitive to district capacity and regional context, are developed and implemented by each regional NMI coordinator in consultation with the global NMI director.

Global, Sponsored, and Retiree Missionary Involvement

- Globally deployed missionaries are eligible to be assigned to any district in the Church of the Nazarene participating in the Links program.
- Sponsored deployed missionaries are eligible to be assigned to their home district only. They will remain connected to that district for the length of time in which they would like to participate in Links or for the entirety of their time of service as a sponsored missionary.
- Retired missionaries are eligible to be assigned to their home district or a neighboring district on their educational region or field. Missionaries must meet Global Missions requirements as a retiree to be eligible for Links.
- Only Nazarene missionaries on contract with Global Missions are eligible for a Links assignment. Missionaries serving around the world that are not on a Global Missions mission contract as Nazarene missionaries are not eligible for Links. Nazarene Missionaries are defined as one of three previously mentioned groups.

Global Process & Procedures

- **Assignment:** The Links connection is between a district and the missionary. Local churches should work with the district to care for their Links missionary. The main connection should be through the district. To assign a Links connection, the global NMI office or the regional NMI coordinator must ask the missionary if they'd like to participate in Links. If they do not respond by the deadline give, there is no Links connection or benefits.
- **Assignment Length:** To better accommodate in-person visits by missionaries to Links assigned districts, assignments will be made for three-year cycles. (*Since missionaries are often moving onto and off Global Missions contracts, it is quite possible that there may be a change in district's Links assignment during the three-year cycle*)
- **Monetary Gifts:** Districts, churches, and individuals may show love and support for a Links assigned missionary by giving monetary gifts if they so choose. If monetary gifts are given, they should be processed through the district or region.
- **Participation:** It is anticipated that each Links participant will:
 - Pray for one another
 - Communicate on a regular basis
 - Remember special days (birthdays, anniversaries, Christmas, etc.)
 - Invite to speak at local church and district events either in person or through video.