

BMDMI Dress Code Regulations for Team Members traveling to Nicaragua

The standard dress of Central Americans, especially Christians in remote villages, is much more conservative than the normal casual dress of most North Americans. In the effort to “become all things to all people,” (1 Cor. 9:22) we strive to have all team members dress in a manner that fits the culture of the Central American Christians living in remote areas so that we will not be a stumbling block to those we are trying to reach.

Team members should dress modestly and conservatively at all times. Remember that we are representing our Lord Jesus. As a reminder, following are the basic dress code regulations – please plan and pack accordingly...



Ladies:

Although ladies may now wear pants (no jeans or capri pants please) during the flight down and back as well as on the day of shopping and sightseeing in the capital city, the wearing of pants, culottes, capri pants, or walking shorts on the mission field is prohibited.

Dresses and skirts (always at least knee-length) should be worn at all times outside the privacy of the sleeping area on the mission field. Blouses and dresses may be sleeveless, but do not wear “spaghetti strap” or strapless sundresses unless they include a jacket or undershirt.

Doctors, nurses, dentists, dental assistants, vets, pharmacy and kitchen workers may wear scrub suits (solid color matching top and bottom) during clinic hours, however, they must change into their regular mission attire (i.e. skirts and long pants) before attending worship services. *Scrubs are not to be left in the village at the end of the week. Untrained people have used them to pose as medical professionals after the team has left.*

No other Team Member is allowed to wear scrubs.

Only dresses or skirts are to be worn to the nightly church services; scrubs are not to be worn to nightly church services and/or children’s church services.

Suggested clothing for ladies to pack:

- ✓ Dresses/skirts for the village work should be comfortable, cool, casual, and washable, and they must be at least knee-length.
- ✓ Shoes should be chosen for comfort and suitability for walking on rough terrain. (We recommend you take two pairs in case one pair gets wet.)
- ✓ A dress-length bathrobe is recommended.
- ✓ A sweater or light jacket is recommended for night use.
- ✓ Clothing should be sufficient for your entire trip, since no laundry facilities are available.
- ✓ Extra socks.

Gentlemen:

Shirts, shoes, and long pants (no shorts, jeans are fine) should be worn at all times when outside the privacy of the sleeping area.

Shorts are not allowed outside the privacy of the sleeping area including at the Mission Home and while traveling to and from the mission field.

Suggested clothing for gentlemen to pack:

- ✓ Men should wear casual clothes or work clothes in the village (jeans are okay).
- ✓ Clothing should be sufficient for the entire stay since laundry facilities are not available.
- ✓ A light jacket is recommended for night use.
- ✓ Doctors, nurses, dentists, dental assistants, vets, pharmacy and kitchen workers may wear scrub suits (solid color matching top and bottom) during clinic hours, however, they must change into their regular mission attire (i.e. casual, work clothes) before attending worship services. *Scrubs are not to be left in the village at the end of the week. Untrained people have used them to pose as medical professionals after the team has left.*
- ✓ No other Team Member is allowed to wear scrubs.
- ✓ Those men preaching should plan to bring shirts with collars to preach during the evening worship services. Ties are optional.
- ✓ Extra socks.

Not abiding by these guidelines could compromise the Mission's ability to reach the lost of Central America. We ask that each team member be committed to following these simple rules to the best of their ability.

Notes:

- ✓ Pack enough clothing to last your entire stay, there are no laundry facilities.
- ✓ With regard to jewelry - wear inexpensive, modest accessories, and limit visible body piercing jewelry to the ears only.
- ✓ Shorts are allowed only in going to and from showers in the village, and only in your sleeping quarters at the MISSION HOME. Please do not wear shorts in the public areas of the MISSION HOME, i.e., dining hall, etc.