

How Do I pay?

Please detach this portion and return to Chemistry teacher Mitzi Moore by September 30th.

General Information:

Student Name _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Phone number or email _____

- Check here if student has passport
- Check here if student is fluent in Spanish



Deposit:

\$65 Non-Refundable Deposit due Nov. 3rd.

Payment Options (check one of the boxes below):

- We will pay in one lump sum at this time. We are attaching a check for \$455 (including deposit) made out to "I.S.A." We do not need financial assistance. *
- We will make payments of \$130 by December 1st, January 5th, and March 2nd. [Ms. Ramirez will collect them.] We do not need financial assistance. *
- We need financial assistance. We can contribute \$_____ towards the cost and request a scholarship of \$_____. (Total should = \$455). The student is / is not (circle one) receiving free or reduced lunch.

*Donations are welcome. If you would like to make a donation to the scholarship fund, please indicate the amount you plan to donate here.

Please attend all of the report card nights because we will be briefing parents about the status of the experience at every meeting. In the meantime, if you would like to see pictures of prior experiences or curriculum, please visit the ISA home page (www.neisd.net/isa) and click on the Zacatecas link.

Important Dates:

September 18th: Fundraiser (cookie dough, etc.) for individual student travel accounts begins.

September 29th: Fundraiser ends. Turn-in money and order forms to Ms. Moore.

September 30th: Give three copies of your passport or verification that it is being processed to Ms. Perret. Turn-in the flap of this brochure to Ms. Moore.

October 30th: Fundraiser orders are delivered.

November 3rd: \$65 non-refundable deposit due. All payments are given to Ms. Ramirez.

December 1st: \$130 payment is due.

January 5th: Second \$130 payment is due.

February 19th: SAMA/Mission San Jose field trip

February 24th: Essential parent meeting at 6 pm for students attending the trip.

March 2nd: Last \$130 payment is due.

March 4th: Encuentro field trip

March 17th: Depart about 10 am for Mexico and return on the morning of March 23rd.

ISA Sophomore Travel Experience: *Monterrey and Zacatecas, Mexico* March 17-23, 2009



WHY ZACATECAS?

In James Michener's Texas, he describes a Franciscan college being built in Zacatecas that will train young Catholic priests to build missions on the Spanish frontier. Some of these missions were in San Antonio. If not for these events, San Antonio as we know it would not exist. The teaching school in Zacatecas still stands, and we will visit it.

WHAT WILL BE LEARNED?

At the sophomore level, the students begin this experience by exploring their personal identity. This exploration will lay the groundwork for a travel experience exploring different areas of San Antonio as a means to understanding the cultural identity of our city. The experience will include a visit to Mission San Jose and to the San Antonio Museum of Art in preparation for sites we will see in Zacatecas.

donation amount: _____

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Additionally, we learn about the culture and history of Mexico. The path we will take to Mexico mirrors a branch of the Camino Real that Spanish merchants, friars, and soldiers traveled hundreds of years ago. Upon arrival in Monterrey and Zacatecas, we will visit several historical and cultural sites and museums.

When we return from Mexico, we will ask the students to reflect on their experiences and create a product that addresses this guiding question: **To what extent has this experience affected your perceptions of Mexico's impact on the identity of San Antonio?**

For many I.S.A. students, this valuable learning experience has been a memorable highlight of their high school years.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

The cost of the experience will be \$455. The cost includes lodging, transportation, and 5 meals. Financial aid will be available. In addition, each student will need a minimum of \$140 in cash to take with them. This money will pay for museum fees, additional meals, snacks, water, etc. during the experience. *Note: this does not include money for souvenirs.*

Our goal is to leave no child behind based on financial need. So, please contact math teacher Leslie Ramirez (lramir1@neisd.net or 210-442-0404 x873) if you have any concerns about finances. Fundraisers will be held to raise money for the travel scholarship account. Parent donations are welcome and appreciated.

WHAT ABOUT LOGISTICS?

All sophomores will travel together to Monterrey and Zacatecas. However, once in the

cities, your children will spend most of their time in a small group of 10-12 students. Each group will have a teacher, an intern, or a Trinity University education professor as a group leader. All groups will also have an additional adult chaperone. This planning allows for an excellent adult-student ratio. When possible, we have traveled with either a nurse or a medical doctor in case of an emergency. If you can help in this area, please contact Lindsey Perret (see below). An I.S.A. administrator will be on hand for any disciplinary issues that might arise.

CAN PARENTS GO?

If you are interested in being a chaperone for this experience, please contact English teacher Lindsey Perret at 210-887-4304 or lperre@neisd.net.

WHAT TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION IS NEEDED?

All students must have appropriate documentation to cross the border. Three copies of your passport (or documentation that the passport is being processed or a note of explanation from a parent) needs to be turned in to Ms. Perret by September 30th.

Also, federal law requires that we have a notarized permission slip form signed by both parents. We will arrange to have a notary public at the mandatory parent meeting on February 24th. If one parent has sole custody, federal law also requires that we have a copy of the portion of the divorce decree granting custody to one parent if the custodial parent is the only signatory on the permission slip.

Please detach this flap, fill out the other side, and return it to Ms. Moore by September 30th.

When making payments, make sure your check is made out to ISA and has your student's name on the memo line. If you are paying in cash, send the money in an envelope with your student's name and the payment amount written on it. Expect a receipt to be given to your student in about a week.

