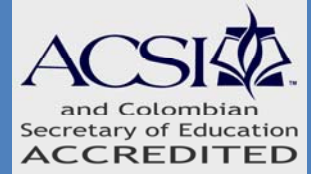




# Missionary Teacher Support

## El Camino Academy



*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.  
In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.”*  
Proverbs 3:5-6

So you have set your sights on being a missionary teacher – Congratulations! Realize that the Lord has a wonderful plan for you as you seek to serve Him, and He will provide for your needs along the way (Philippians 4). As you prepare, you will also have to focus on funding your ministry. As Betty Barnett writes, *“Many Christians considering full-time missionary service are more fearful of support raising than of being martyred on the mission field.”* Thankfully, missionaries can be fully funded and even enjoy the journey getting there. As Scott Morton writes, *“I’ve come to see fundraising as a ministry and a privilege rather than a burden.”*

Our ECA teachers are encouraged to raise over \$1,000/month plus outgoing expenses. It sounds unattainable, yet our ECA staff complete this task every year. How? By God’s grace and a lot of hard work, along with the proper attitude.

Here are some things you can do now to prepare for the support-raising portion of your upcoming ministry:

1. **LEARN** – read a book on fundraising, or attend a seminar. Here are those we recommend:
  - a. *Funding Your Ministry*, by Scott Morton (1999, Dawsonmedia, Colorado Springs, CO, a ministry of The Navigators). This book has a detailed Bible study, providing a scriptural basis for fundraising.
  - b. *People Raising*, by William P. Dillon (1993, Moody, Chicago, IL)
  - c. *Friend Raising*, by Betty Barnett (1991, YWAM Publishing, Seattle, WA), which we have copies of in the ECA library.
  - d. *Getting Set*, by Pete Sommer (1999, InterVarsity Press, Downers Grove, IL)
  - e. Attend a 2-day fundraising “boot camp” by The Body Builders ([thebodybuilders.net](http://thebodybuilders.net)). (\$350)
2. **CHURCH** – get involved! As you serve in your local church, you will (1) confirm your calling, (2) validate to others your call to missions, and (3) deepen relationships. Most people have at least one significant church that sends them as their missionary. Your involvement could include Bible studies, youth programs, outreaches, etc.

3. **MAILING LIST** – start building a mailing list now, both e-mail and snail mail addresses. The more people on your list who are interested in you and your ministry, the more potential for partnership you have. ECA encourages new staff to come with at least 50 people on their mailing list. That number should more than double as you raise ministry support. Campus Crusade for Christ offers a free program for managing your relationships with your ministry partners (tntware.com) Constant Contact ([www.constantcontact.com](http://www.constantcontact.com)) is another good resource for helping keep in touch.
4. **VISION** – share your vision with your family, friends, and church. This will begin with talking about your desire to serve God overseas as a missionary. As your target date gets close, and as your mailing list grows, you will want to send periodic prayer letters. ECA missionary teachers are asked to send at least one newsletter per quarter (e-mail or snail mail).
5. **PRAY** – begin praying regularly that God would (1) lead and prepare you in your service to Him, (2) help you gain His perspective about funding His ministry, and (3) bring about opportunities to meet new people now who may be a part of funding your ministry in the future.

It is an awesome privilege to build a ministry partnership team of people and churches who will financially and prayerfully support your ministry. God will lead and provide for you as you trust and work with Him (Psalm 37:3-5). He is the Christian's confidence. May the Lord bless your efforts. ECA hopes to see you in the very near future!

Adapted from Missionary Aviation Fellowship document "Missionary Support," dated 4/4/2007.