

## **Global Routes Gap Year Essential Eligibility Criteria**

As peoples of the world become increasingly interdependent we must all recognize that we live in a global community. The future of this community depends upon our self-knowledge as well as upon mutual understanding and respect among diverse cultures.

Global Routes deepens these roots of our shared community as we foster personal and international development. Undertaking voluntary work overseas allows North American youth the opportunity to push past stereotypes and misconceptions to build strong relationships and self-understanding, as well as buildings.

The *Essential Eligibility Criteria* (EEC) are set in place to ensure a successful experience for all parties involved on a Global Routes Gap Year Program. Qualified participants must meet the following criteria:

- Have finished 12<sup>th</sup> grade
- Be under 22 years of age
- Be capable of meeting the physical and emotional demands of an intensive group program that requires significant levels of personal independence and responsibility.
- Be capable of meeting the physical demands of all outdoor activities associated with the specific Gap Year program such as:
  - Ziplining
  - Rappelling
  - Whitewater rafting
  - Hiking
  - Swimming
  - Surfing
  - Snorkeling
- Be capable of meeting the physical demands of all Service Learning projects associated with the specific Gap Year program such as:
  - Building and construction projects
  - Painting
  - Gardening and Farming
  - Leading active games for large groups
- Be capable of meeting the intellectual and emotional challenges posed by each specific Gap Year program such as:
  - Teaching English and other school subjects
  - Extended Family Homestays
  - Teaching games and leading initiatives