



Youthlinc Medical Mentor Role Description

Medical Mentors are licensed medical professionals who support the health, safety, and preparedness of a Youthlinc Service Year team. They advise participants and team leadership on health concerns related to international travel, provide basic and emergency care when appropriate, and help determine when additional medical attention is necessary.

Medical Mentors also serve as regular Service Year Mentors. They guide participants through leadership development, project-based learning, cultural exchange, and hands-on service while advancing Youthlinc's mission of creating lifetime humanitarians. The Medical Mentor reports to the Team Leader and Service Year Directors.

Required Credentials

Applicants must hold a current professional license or certification as one of the following:

- Physician
- Physician Assistant
- Nurse Practitioner
- Registered Nurse
- Advanced Emergency Medical Technician

Medical Mentors must also attend required Youthlinc Medical Mentor trainings.

What We're Looking For

- Calm, confident, and able to make sound decisions during emergencies
- Strong communication skills and the ability to explain health risks clearly
- Comfortable providing basic care and first aid in potentially challenging environments
- Organized, adaptable, and responsive
- Able to work effectively with youth, adults, families, and international partners
- Experience with mentoring, project management, delegation, and conflict resolution
- Commitment to working within professional qualifications and scope of practice
- Passion for Youthlinc's mission and service

Responsibilities

Inspire

- Serve as a positive role model and mentor to youth and adult participants.
- Support participants in becoming thoughtful, responsible, and culturally aware humanitarian leaders.
- Mentor the Community Health Committee as participants research, develop, and present health education appropriate to the international destination.
- Help participants understand the local healthcare system and the importance of sustainable, community-led health initiatives.
- Fulfill all standard Service Year Mentor responsibilities, including supervision, monthly meeting attendance, committee involvement, project fundraising, and upholding Youthlinc's Code of Conduct.

Empower

- Attend monthly team meetings and provide relevant education about international travel health, physical activities, environmental conditions, and destination-specific risks.
- Complete required travel-health briefings and become familiar with health concerns at the team's international destination.
- Review participant medical information and communicate privately with adult participants or parents and guardians of minors when follow-up is needed.
- Collaborate with the Team Leader to create appropriate support plans for participants with health conditions that may affect international travel.
- Protect participant privacy and share medical information only with individuals who need it to support participant health and safety.
- Prepare participants to make responsible decisions regarding medications, hydration, nutrition, hygiene, physical activity, and personal health while traveling.

Serve

- Provide basic care, first aid, or emergency assistance when appropriate and within professional qualifications and scope of practice.
- Remain calm during medical situations and work with the Team Leader and In-Country Coordinator to determine when local medical care, emergency services, or additional support is needed.
- Maintain responsibility for the team medical bag, including becoming familiar with its contents, keeping supplies organized and functional, documenting items used, and reporting restocking or equipment needs.
- Communicate medical concerns promptly to Youthlinc staff and complete any required incident documentation.
- Gather information about healthcare needs, resources, and systems at the international site.
- Build respectful relationships with local healthcare professionals and share relevant information with participants, team leadership, and Youthlinc staff.
- Collaborate with past and future Medical Mentors, Youthlinc staff, team leadership, and community partners to develop realistic, culturally appropriate, and sustainable health initiatives.

Community Healthcare Expectations

Youthlinc does not endorse public medical clinics or unapproved direct healthcare delivery within host communities. Medical Mentors and participants must not provide care beyond their qualifications, licensure, or approved program responsibilities.

Any healthcare-related activity must:

- Be coordinated with Youthlinc staff and local partners.
- Respond to needs identified by the host community.
- Respect the local healthcare system and cultural context.
- Remain within the Medical Mentor's professional scope of practice.
- Prioritize education, collaboration, and long-term community benefit.

When training or supporting local healthcare professionals is approved, Youthlinc participants may observe and assist only as appropriate.

Qualifications & Commitment

Applicants must:

- Hold one of the required licenses or certifications.
- Be at least 25 years old or have three to five years of licensed professional experience.
- Attend Youthlinc Medical Mentor training and required team meetings.
- Participate fully in the Service Year and international service experience.
- Maintain prompt communication with the Team Leader and Youthlinc staff.
- Complete all standard Service Year Mentor responsibilities.
- Successfully complete Youthlinc's background check.

Program Cost:

Medical Mentors are responsible for the cost of their international service experience. They may apply for available financial assistance and may fundraise toward their individual program cost in accordance with Youthlinc policies.