



**Flying Instructor / Mission Flying Intern  
at WAASPS / Medicine on the Move,  
Ghana, West Africa**

WAASPS, the only light aircraft build and maintenance centre in West Africa, in conjunction with Medicine on the Move (an NGO starting aerial medical support services in the region), are looking for a volunteer Flying Instructor/Mission Pilot for a one-year posting based at Kpong in the Eastern Region of Ghana.

This is a non-paid, volunteer position for a person who is sincerely considering a future in Developmental Aviation, Medical Aviation or Mission Aviation who would like to gain experience and improve their knowledge of aviation operations, engineering and maintenance in rural Africa.

In Africa, the environment and conditions are tough. We work on the basis that, if it can go wrong, it has already done so; if can't go wrong just wait to see what is about to happen!!

The right person for this position will be a person with not only strong Christian values and faith but also with an insatiable passion for flying in light aircraft; a person with a desire to make a difference to people's lives through his/her actions, and through sharing his/her passion with students and young people.

**Gender:** Female or Male

**Age:** 20 years or over

**Marital Status:** Probably single; however, a married couple may be considered if spouse is also looking to contribute to flying/administrative/logistics operations.

**Health:** Must be healthy non-smoker(s). Non-drinker(s) preferred (we operate a zero-alcohol tolerance policy for driving and flying - as such, a minimum of 12 hours between drinking and operating a vehicle or aircraft is required).

**Duration:** one year

**Language Skills:** Must speak good clear English. Spoken French, or a willingness to learn it would be an advantage.

**People Skills:** Must be able to express complex ideas in simple terms to people with little exposure to western systems and lack of educational exposure. (For instance, terms such as 'Horizon' may be new, and at school they may not have been taught map reading; thus the student may NEVER have held a map before.) Patience and tolerance are essential.

**Risk Concept:** The ideal candidate will understand the concept of risk management and be prepared to consider flights over areas with no emergency landing options other than a tree or water. (We have a POH procedure for landing *on* a tree – not yet tested in the field...and many trainee pilots/passengers cannot swim, so water crossings must be approached appropriately).

**Living and Working conditions:** Must be prepared to live and operate in rural Africa and accept that snakes and scorpions are part of everyday life – knowing

which ones hurt and which ones harm is a skill we will teach the right candidate. There is no air conditioning and we are approximately two hours from the only Shopping Mall in the country. Food is fairly regular but **don't** expect to find Oreo Cookies or Twinkies. Yams and Rice are main staples, accompanied by corned beef, fresh meat and fish. This posting would probably not suit a vegetarian, due to the limited nature of vegetable products. Local dishes are VERY spicy. However, when we cater internally we dose it down to less laxative proportions... Most days temps rise to between 35 and 45C, and drop to 20-25C at night. We have had one night when it went below 20C. Most people adapt in about 2 weeks and then feel cold when it goes below 25C.

**Previous Flying Experience:** At least 100 hours of fixed wing, three-axis, light single operations, current PPL/LSA/PPL-M or equivalent with a valid flying instructor rating. Time in light singles, especially cross-country work, is essential to being able to fit in to this position. You must be happy to fly without doors, with limited map support and no GPS (in case it fails) with no weather forecasting other than Mk1 eyeball available.

**Other Skills:** Valid First Aid certificate, Paramedic or other medical training an advantage. Either way, willingness to undertake field training on first aid and survival essential.

#### **What the selected candidate will provide:**

The selected candidate will be responsible for

1. A recent, valid, aviation medical (at least class 2).
2. Valid PPL/LSA/PPL-M licence and instructor rating.
3. Up-to-date log books.
4. Passport valid at least 6 months beyond the end of the proposed posting.
5. A one-year 'open' air ticket - in case of early termination.
6. Multi-entry Visa for Ghana (we will provide support letters).
7. Vaccinations (yellow fever and Tetanus is required, Hep A/B, Polio and Diphtheria, recommended).
8. Anti-Malarial prophylaxis if you desire – **BUT NOT** Larium or its derivatives.
9. Medical insurance for the duration of your posting.
10. All clothing (jeans for flying and cotton shirts) and other personal items (no nylon to be worn when flying).
11. Lightweight, leather, (preferably steel-capped) shoes/boots that you are comfortable to fly in.
12. A non-returnable payment of two thousand five hundred US dollars (\$2,500) or equivalent towards the conversion training and other costs incurred by WAASPS/MoM.
13. A 'returnable upon condition' deposit of two thousand five hundred US dollars (\$2,500) or equivalent.
14. Personal First Aid Kit.
15. Your own David Clark twin GA jack headset – we provide cotton ear covers – you will need them for sweat absorption.
16. Spending money (depending on your habits we recommend between \$50 and \$100 per month – there is not much to spend your money on here, but you may need to replace some clothes/personal items.)

#### **What will be provided:**

1. Orientation to West Africa and support during the transition phase.

2. Six day per week working operations (usually 07:00 – 18:00) in an aviation-related role – flying, engineering, airfield maintenance, etc.
3. One day per week rest day – usually Monday, missions permitting.
4. A total of twelve additional rest days accumulated at the rate of one per month (missions permitting) to permit you to enjoy some tourism further a field.
5. Conversion training to Ghana PUP (equivalent to LSA in the USA, PPL-M in the UK), and all associated costs of examination and issue.
6. Bush operations training (including short/soft-field ops for sub-500ft fields).
7. Low-level flying training (most of our VFR ops are below 1,500ft agl).
8. Training as an Assistant Instructor for the Ghana PUP (sub 500kg aircraft) and, subject to performance, qualification as a Ghana UIE (UL Instructor Examiner).
9. Workshop experience in build and maintenance of tube and cloth and all-metal aircraft.
10. Rotax 912 training course and certification from WAASPS (Rotax Authorised Centre).
11. Simple accommodation – furnished, bed-sit style.
12. Set breakfast, lunch and evening meal (although some days you may miss some of these out if on mission work)
13. Mosquito net or a room with mosquito netting on windows
14. A detailed report on all that you have done and a reference from WAASPS and Medicine on the Move when you leave.
15. An opportunity to make a difference to the development of aviation in West Africa.
16. An experience of a lifetime that will change the way you look at the world.
17. Possible opportunity to join MoM as a mission pilot at the end of the term of service.

### **What you will be doing**

1. Assisting with aircraft build and maintenance.
2. Assisting with ground school for potential pilots.
3. Pilot Training – starting with Air experience flights, progressing to cross country accompanier and then to ab-initio training.
4. Mission Flying when/if at a suitable level.
5. Scouting flights.
6. Participating in the only West African Light Aviation Air show.
7. Presenting short lectures on aviation to school, church and other groups.

### **Conditions for return of deposit:**

The two thousand five hundred US dollars (\$2,500) conditional deposit will be returned in full, providing the following conditions are met:

1. Completes satisfactorily the 12-month posting.
2. Performs all duties in a professional and responsible manner
3. Behaves in a courteous manner to all neighbours, visitors and clients of the organisations
4. Returns all materials (books, maps, etc) loaned out in 'as-loaned' condition

### **What to do if you are interested:**

Contact Jonathan Porter, CFI, at [jp@waasps.com](mailto:jp@waasps.com) or Elizabeth Porter, Operations Co-ordinator at [ep@medicineonthemove.org](mailto:ep@medicineonthemove.org) with your CV, details of your flying experience and a short description of why you would like to be considered for such a post and how you believe you can contribute to our small team.