

## Individuals with a One-Way Flight Ticket to Colombia (Bogota):

Booking a one-way ticket can propose some issues when entering Colombia, due to the fact that the Colombian Government officials at the airport may want you to have PROOF of your date departure. We recommend a few options that will allow you to enter the country showing a temporary departure date.

Clarification: The program will have transportation for you from Bogota to city where you'll teach after orientation is completed (Orientation Dates: Feb 25<sup>th</sup> & Mar 4<sup>th</sup>). Then, the program will have transportation for you back to Bogota at the end of your teaching fellowship (Jun 30<sup>th</sup>).

Option 1: BUS: There is a bus that goes from Bogota, Colombia to Quito, Ecuador and is a potential option for a potential June 30th departure date. Purchase ticket using credit card. [BusBud.com](http://BusBud.com) is a reliable company often used in this situation that is directly in partnership with major bus companies in Colombia/Ecuador (Copetran, Expreso Brasilia, Bolivariano, Berlinas del Fonce, Rapido Ochoa, Fronteras). Once you are in Colombia safe and sound, return to the Bus Bud website and get your refund for your ticket. **REMEMBER**, to always read the details and fine print on your ticket, as well as the terms and conditions of your ticket. You must have proof of this bus ticket purchase with you during your initial flight to Colombia.

Option 2: PLANE: Buying a refundable plane ticket is more reliable when entering Colombia in comparison to a bus ticket, but you must consider that is a larger purchase. Use credit card. You must have proof of this bus ticket purchase with you during your initial flight to Colombia. There are a few sites that allow you to buy a refundable ticket at low cost, provided below: Do not purchase non-refundable tickets.

- **Bestonwardticket.com** – \$7.99 (USD) is all you need to pay and you have a refundable ticket ready to be used! (**RECOMMENDED SITE**)
- **Flyonward.com** – Slightly more expensive site with a cost of \$9.99 (USD)
- **Orbitz.com** – Refundable tickets if cancelled within 24 hours of purchase. 100% of the price is refunded. Reliable and established company known to have a good customer service support.
- **Returnflights.net** – Free of charge site to use if you need a refundable return flight. It is also very easy and quick to use.

**REMEMBER**, there is a small risk when purchasing these tickets, as they are essentially not actual plane tickets. The companies only 'hold ticket placements temporarily' while you cancel them. But you have to follow their strict instructions accurately if you wish to receive your refund. Many travelers use these websites to avoid the trouble of purchasing round-trip tickets. Remember, when you attempt to enter Colombia, they will ask to see how you plan of departure upon completing your legal stay. You need proof on hand of either a round-trip ticket, or one of the bus/plane options outlined above. **What's the easiest plan?** Purchase round-trip tickets arriving the first day of Orientation in Bogota and departing June 30<sup>th</sup> from Bogota back to your home country. We are not responsible for your decision to stay longer in Colombia. You would need to modify your VISA status either by requesting a Tourist extended-stay or obtain a new contract or enter into a student, volunteer, or investor status VISA. Please consult with the Colombian embassy in your home country over these options.