

## **Calvin College Adventure Grant** **Release and Indemnity Agreement**

Please print clearly and complete all sections:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ College ID# \_\_\_\_\_

Trip Initiator(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Trip Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Destination/Activity: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***A Brief Description of Common Adventure Trips***

A trip is a trip put together by six to twelve individuals working cooperatively for common goals and sharing expenses and responsibilities as equitably as possible. There are no "leaders" or paid guides. Any instruction or advice provided by any member of the group is given gratuitously in a spirit of cooperation. Each member is responsible for his/her own safety, and members of the group do not hold one another or others liable for accidents.

### ***Sharing Responsibility on Trips***

On a common adventure trip, everyone is expected to share in the responsibilities of the trip. The trip initiator (the person who posted the sign-up sheet) simply begins the trip process. The rest of the group is expected to help plan, organize, cook, wash, load and unload vehicles, buy food, clean up equipment afterwards, etc. The success or failure of a trip rests not in the hands of the trip initiator, but rather in the hands of everyone who participates in the trip. Common Adventure trips are not guided trips. There is no designated "leader" or "guide" who makes the decisions for the group. Rather, leadership is fluid and group decisions are made democratically.

### ***Essential Characteristics of Trips that qualify for an adventure grant:***

- Every member of a Common Adventure group has responsibilities and contributes to the trip, whether by helping with trip planning, buying food, loading vehicles or cleaning up after it's over. No one goes for a free ride.
- There are no guide fees. No group money goes to pay any one person among the group, nor does any money go to any outside individual or sponsoring institution or club. The cost of the trip (gas, food, rental of equipment) is shared.
- Common adventure groups strive for fairness, free and open discussion, and an equitable sharing of responsibilities.

### *Assumption of Risk*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge that I am a willing participant of a student led spring break trip, and that my participation is not required or compelled in any way by Calvin College. I understand that participation in the trip activities carries with it certain risks, and that some risks may not be eliminated even when care is taken to avoid injury. The specific risks may vary from one activity to another, but range from minor injuries such as scrapes, scratches, bruises and sprains, to major injuries such as eye injuries or loss of sight, joint or back injuries, heart attacks and concussions, to catastrophic injuries including paralysis and/or death.

**I (\_\_\_\_\_) have read the previous paragraph and I know, understand, and appreciate these and other risks associated with or inherent in these activities and programs. I hereby assert that my participation is voluntary and that I knowingly assume all such risks, including risks of personal injury (up to and including paralysis and/or death) and property damage related to or arising out of my participation in the trip.**

**I (\_\_\_\_\_) have read and fully understand the definition and key characteristics of the Adventure Grant model of outdoor programs, and agree to follow the principles.**

**Release, Indemnification and Hold Harmless:** I also agree, for myself, my heirs and my personal representative(s) to **RELEASE** and to **INDEMNIFY** and **HOLD Calvin College and its trustees, officers, agents and employees, including student trip initiators of such activities, HARMLESS** from any and all claims, actions, suits, costs, expenses, damages and liabilities of any sort on account of damage to personal property, or personal injury, or death which may result from my participation.

**Severability:** I also expressly agree that the foregoing waiver and assumption of risks agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the State of Michigan, and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

**Acknowledgement of Understanding:** I have read this release of liability and assumption of risk and indemnity agreement, fully understand its terms, and understand that I am giving up substantial rights, including my right to sue. I acknowledge that I am signing the agreement freely and voluntarily, and intend the agreement by my signature to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law.

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Student Signature

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Date

