



Advisor Guide

This Advisor Guide is meant to help you guide your new hire(s) through PFO2Go.

ACSI has provided PreField Orientation (PFO) live training since 1987. When the COVID-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of PFO in the summer of 2020, it also forced us to move to an online solution to help schools with their orientation plans. An online version had been discussed for several years and, like so many others, the pandemic pushed us to finally go for it.

PFO-live, and now PFO2Go, have been designed to help new international school appointees start their new assignment with more confidence, transition more successfully, work with TCKs more effectively, and hopefully, stay longer at their international school.

ON COURSE DESIGN

PFO2Go can be taken anytime, anywhere, but preferably prior to departure for the field (pre-field), see some exceptions to this below. PFO-live always had one downside for some potential participants—some couldn't join due to scheduling conflicts and some late hires simply missed the training completely. Being an asynchronous course now means that no one need miss the chance to take PFO2Go and learn from the most important concepts of PFO training.

For PFO2Go v.2020 (our pilot year), we are including the major core material from our PFO-live program: Culture, Third Culture Kid profile, and the Transition tracks. We are also including the topics of Introduction to Service (Course Opening), Wellness (Unstringing the Bow), and other topics like Theology of Risk and four PFO bible studies. In future years, we will add additional components.

The core content of the course is given in a series of 16 video presentations by our team of presenters. In between each presentation is a set of learning activities meant to get your PFO2Go learners thinking and preparing their hearts for service. Four Bible studies from the book of I Peter center around the concept of “scattered ones.” The learning activities and Bible studies are included in the Learners Guide that you will use along with your learners.

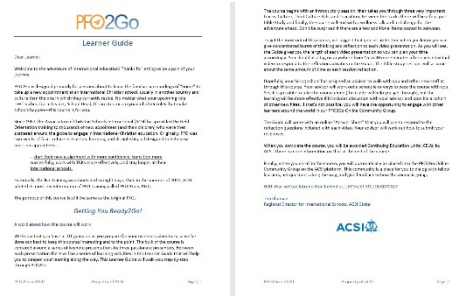
THE ROLE OF THE ADVISOR

PFO2Go, just like PFO-live, is designed to include the active involvement of an experienced advisor in the lives of the learners. We built this course assuming that each learner would have an advisor that will set the PFO2Go course pace, check on learner progress, and hold discussion with the learner around the important topics that are presented throughout the course.

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Inside the student Learner Guide, you will see that every video lesson has an activity page. Each page includes the following:

- A brief **Description** of the session.
- **Video Length.** This is included so the Learner can set aside enough time to focus on the lesson. A general rule of thumb is that learners should tack on a similar amount of time for the “Write Down and be Ready to Discuss” sections plus 5 minutes or so. These are our best estimates for v.2020.
- **Write Down and be Ready to Discuss** section. This is the most important piece of the course and the one upon which you and your learners should focus. As you will see, there are no right answers to the questions. They are designed to cause the learner to think deeply and to share with you from their heart. It is our hope that the questions will open helpful conversations. Response boxes are included in each version of the Guide. While we do not recommend that your learners write long paragraph responses, a two- or three-word response might indicate that your Learner is not engaging appropriately with the material. On the other hand, you might have a new staff member that, for whatever reason, is uncomfortable with writing. That’s fine as long as you can find a way to know your learner is processing the concepts.
- A **Reflection** thought is included for each lesson. These reflections are usually scriptural concepts to make the learner contemplate their walk with Jesus through this time of transition. Sometimes they are questions; sometimes they are just ideas. We do not expect the learners to respond to this one in writing, but you are free to use this in discussions with your learners if you wish.
- There is a short **Pray** challenge with each lesson. We have a space for your learners to write out what they are thinking in prayer, but this can be optional if some are uncomfortable submitting a written prayer. This is between you and your learners.
- **For Further Learning** section. This is offered as an optional item. We’ve tried to keep this section interesting, and in some cases fun in the hopes that it will draw some learners to explore a bit more on the subject matter.
- There will be an occasional **Bonus** section. These are short videos highlighting God at work in national Christian school settings. We do recommend that you and all learners watch these videos.



Learner Guide

[\[Register with PFO2Go to see the remaining pages\]](#)

