

## **Can you bring a companion?**

### **Question:**

Can I bring my boyfriend with me on assignments? He is not a nurse.

### **Response:**

As a matter of fact, I recommend that you bring your boyfriend. Companionship, while traveling, is safer and perhaps more fun. You are both fortunate to be able to travel together and will not regret all the experiences and memories you will create together.

More and more travelers are bringing their loved ones. As our society becomes increasingly mobile and the nursing shortage prominent, healthcare professionals are taking on travel as a full time profession or way of life.

Travel nursing companies understand this and are willing to work with you. Just make sure you are upfront about your living situation from the beginning. Companies appreciate the information. Furthermore, they will be much more accommodating should a problematic situation arise, if you tell them ahead of time.

I know of a nurse who took an assignment with her friend and 2 kids (a toddler and infant). She didn't tell her company about her situation. The neighbors began to complain about the noise and the company found out. They didn't mind, but said they would have made better arrangements for her had they known about her kids. Since she hadn't shared this information ahead of time, the company felt slighted and wasn't motivated to work with her to find a new place.

Most companies want to be accommodating because they want you to work for them. You are a valuable commodity and don't forget it.