



Mid America Dharma

Financial Assistance Guidelines

In keeping with the spirit and practice of dana (generosity), Mid America Dharma has made provision to extend financial assistance to people who would otherwise be unable to attend a retreat because of limited financial resources. Because our financial resources are limited as well, we ask that applicants make every effort to pay as much of the registration fee as they are able so there will be funds to assist as many people as possible. **We also invite those receiving scholarships to participate in some of the tasks of managing the retreat as part of the reception of a scholarship.**

Deferred Payment Plan

If you are not able to pay for the entire retreat up front, we ask that you first consider a deferred payment plan. This option requires that you pay at least 50% of the deposit during advance registration to reserve a space in the retreat. The full deposit must be paid by the time the retreat begins.

The registration balance can be paid in installments, usually within three months after the retreat. The conditions of deferred payment plans can be worked out between the applicant and the Scholarship Committee Coordinator.

If you would like to arrange a deferred payment plan, please complete the enclosed form and mail it to the Scholarship Committee Coordinator listed on the form. Please mail your retreat registration form and deposit to the Registrar. At least 50% of the deposit must be paid during registration to reserve a space in the retreat. The full deposit must be paid by the time the retreat begins.

Deferred payment plan arrangements must be completed by the retreat registration deadline. Please note that only one deferred payment plan may be outstanding at any time.

SCHOLARSHIP OPTIONS

If you need more assistance than a deferred payment plan, there are two scholarship options available: partial and supporting scholarships. We recognize there are many circumstances that may limit an individual's financial resources. All applications for a scholarship will be considered on an individual basis.

Partial Scholarships

Partial scholarships waive the overhead costs of the retreat. The recipient pays only the cost of room and board. People with limited financial resources who may qualify for a partial scholarship include (but are not limited to): individuals with a life-threatening or serious illness; temporary or permanent disability; who are retired; unemployed; single parents and/or parents who must pay for child care in order to attend a retreat; people with low income who have jobs with no paid vacation time. Students and people who work part-time will also be considered for partial scholarships.



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Supporting Scholarships

Consideration for supporting scholarships is first given to individuals with life-threatening or serious illness who also have limited financial resources. Supporting scholarships may also be given to people with limited financial resources due to: temporary or permanent disability that limits their ability to work; retirement; and in some cases, unemployment.

Partial Scholarship + Deferred Payment Plan

It is also possible to combine a partial scholarship with a deferred payment plan. For example: half of the registration fee by a partial scholarship in combination with a deferred payment plan for the other half of the fee. If you are interested in this option, please specify on the Scholarship Application.

Opportunities for Service as Part of Financial Aid

As part of the process of receiving a scholarship, we invite scholarship recipients who are able to donate a service during the retreat. Examples of tasks that might be available are working the registration desk at the beginning of the retreat and assistance with management tasks during the retreat (maintaining the tea table, bell ringing, maintaining retreat supplies, setup before and cleanup after the retreat, passing out evaluation forms at the end of the retreat). Arrangements for such service opportunities may be arranged between the person applying for scholarship, the chair of the scholarship committee, and the retreat registrar.

APPLICATION PROCESS

If you would like to apply for any form of scholarship assistance please complete the scholarship application form and mail it to **Joe McCormack, 2756 County Road 338, New Bloomfield, MO 65063, Phone: (573) 491-3431, E-mail: Metta41856@embarqmail.com**. In order to reserve a space in the retreat, please send your retreat registration form and deposit to the Registrar. (Full supporting scholarships do not require a deposit.)

Please send your application as soon as possible. No scholarship applications can be considered after the retreat registration deadline. *The application, registration and deposit must be received by this deadline.*

SCHOLARSHIP LIMITS

We can offer no more than two scholarships per person per year (except in the case of someone with a life-threatening illness). In addition to the situation listed previously, first consideration will be given to individuals who have not received a scholarship within the past 12 months.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation.