

Financial Aid Guidelines

Scholarships for Residential Retreat ~ General Information

Dana (the Pali word for generosity) has played an essential role in the 2,500 year-old Buddhist tradition. Spirit Rock Meditation Center teachers freely offer the teachings, and are supported in turn by donations from participants who value what the teachings have brought to their lives. In the spirit of this tradition, Spirit Rock Meditation Center is committed to offering scholarship assistance to those who are genuinely unable to afford the low-end sliding scale price of a meditation retreat.

Due to limited resources, we cannot guarantee that every application will result in a scholarship award. Due to an increase in applicants, your first choice of retreat may not always be possible, as there are a limited number of beds available for scholarship applicants on some retreats.

If you can afford to pay the full amount of the retreat, please do so; this allows Spirit Rock to offer scholarship or special rates to those truly in financial need.

Deposit

All retreats require a deposit to register, even if you are applying for a scholarship. Please refer to the registration application form of the retreat you wish to attend for specific deposit amounts.

How to apply:

Send in your registration forms, including deposit, and scholarship form. If you do not receive the funds that you need, your deposit will be refunded.

Cancellations

If you need to cancel from a retreat, please do so early. This gives us time to open the space up for another applicant. Once you have been accepted into the retreat, cancellation fees will apply. Please see next page for explanation of cancellations fees.

Scholarship Funds

Spirit Rock Meditation Center has established various scholarships to support the practice needs of our diverse community. Please apply for a scholarship only if you have a financial need that would otherwise prevent you from attending a retreat. Please read the information below and, if submitting a scholarship application, please select the fund that best suits your situation.

Mudita Scholarships

The Mudita Scholarship provides a means for those who find themselves in financial need and who would not otherwise be able to attend a retreat. A deposit is required. See the registration form for the amount.

Applicants may be granted up to 9 nights (\$627) of retreat time per year, including scholarships for multi-year retreat programs (i.e. DPP, CDL, POE and MYMT). A deposit of \$15 per night is required.

Please note that applications for the one- and two-month retreats are considered separately.

Karuna Scholarships

This Scholarship is available for those with serious medical conditions who find themselves in financial need and who would not otherwise be able to attend a retreat. See the registration form for the retreat you would like to attend for the deposit amount.

Applicants may be granted up to 20 nights (\$1387) of retreat time per year including scholarships for multi-year retreat programs (i.e. DPP, CDL, POE and MYMT). A deposit of \$15 per night is required.

Please note that applications for the one- and two-month retreats are considered separately.

People of Color (POC) Scholarship

Spirit Rock Meditation Center is committed to diversity. The POC Scholarship is specifically for People of Color. Awards may be granted up to 20 nights (\$1387) of retreat time per year nights per year. A deposit of \$15 per night is required.

Please note that applications for the one- and two-month retreats are considered separately.

Renunciate Monastics:

Renunciate Monastics are invited to attend Spirit Rock Meditation Center retreats. No deposit is required; there is no deposit and no limit on the number of nights. [Please consider these words an invitation to attend our retreats. We do ask that you register in advance as some retreats do fill and space may not always be available.]

Young Adult Rate:

It is our wish to support the practice needs of meditators in early adulthood. To this end, Spirit Rock extends a special invitation to young adults [age 18-26] who wish to attend one of the retreats below at a special rate of \$15 per night. They will have a limited number of available Young Adult special rate beds, on a first come, first-served basis.

For 2010 the retreats are:

January 19-24 Essential Dharma (326R10)
May 2-9 Women's Retreat (344R10)
June 28-July 5 Living Dharma Retreat (360R10)
August 9-15 Young Adult Retreat (372R10)
December 13-18 LGBTQ Retreat (218R10)

Please visit our website at www.spiritrock.org for more details about these retreats.

Deferred Payment Plan

You can arrange to pay your retreat registration fee over time via monthly deductions from your bank account. Send in your registration forms and deposit (see registration forms for the deposit amount) to the Retreat Registrar and ask for a Deferred Payment Form. Fill out the form, attach a voided blank check, bring it with you to the retreat, and give it to the retreat manager when you check in. Deferred payment is also available for Teacher and Staff Dana at the end of a retreat. Please bring an extra voided check if you'd like to defer your teacher and staff dana.

Cancellation Fees:

Late Cancellations make it difficult to give someone else the opportunity to attend. Please contact Spirit Rock Registrars immediately, should you need to cancel.

Date of Cancellation

More than 6 weeks before the start of the retreat
4-6 weeks before the start of the retreat
Less than 4 weeks before the start of the retreat

Non-Refundable Cancellation Fee

\$25 or 25% of the required deposit, whichever is greater
\$25 or 50% of the required deposit, whichever is greater
100% of the required deposit