

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION ODIYAN 2018

This is an application to volunteer in a secluded spiritual community. We ask personal questions to ensure the compatibility, health and safety of all our volunteers.

We cannot accept children or pets. Couples are welcome to apply. The minimum commitment is six months. We prefer nine months. A living allowance is included during your volunteer time: \$100 per month after the first month, \$150 per month after six months.

Odiyan is a non-smoking facility. Please do not apply if you are currently smoking or have recently quit smoking

Process Applications are initially screened by the Volunteer Committee to determine if the applicant may be a good fit for the program. This is followed by a phone interview and reference checks. The application process can take up to 3-4 weeks. We may at our discretion perform background checks.

Trial Period All volunteers are accepted on a two week trial basis which serves to confirm to our mutual agreement that the program is a good fit for the applicant. After the trial period has passed we expect volunteers to stay for the full commitment period.

Volunteering at Odiyan is a Work Retreat. There are other activities in which you participate, but working is what you spend most of your time doing. Most of the work is manual physical work in the areas of landscaping, vegetable and ornamental gardening, construction and land management; as well as maintenance of every kind from water systems to vehicles to appliances and building repairs. We have a fully functioning Foundry along with a metal shop, wood shop and metal plating facility. When the foundry is in production you will spend part of your time grinding or polishing Buddhist statues or helping with other aspects of the bronze metal fabrication process. The kitchen work includes cooking, baking, preserving, kitchen and meal clean-up and stocking supplies. Optional scheduled activities are classes such as yoga and Buddhist study or discussion groups on some weekday evenings or on Sunday.

We are seeking volunteers who are interested in immersing themselves fully in the lifestyle of Odiyan which includes the work, community life and educational opportunities.

Application instructions

1. Please include a photo of yourself that you feel will give us a sense of who you are. It does not need to be a formal portrait; a casual picture of you with family and friends or by yourself is sufficient
2. Resumes are welcome, but please include on the resume or in the application the reasons for leaving your jobs.

3. References: please give both phone numbers and email addresses for all references. We require a total of four references. Include at least two employment references (preferably supervisors) and one family member (a parent, if possible) or close family friend who has known you for over 10 years.

Submitting your application

1. Fill out the application below and email it to volunteer@odiyan.org as an attachment. Also include your photo as an attachment.

- OR -

2. Copy the application below and paste into an email. Type your answers directly into the email and send it along with your photo as an attachment to volunteer@odiyan.org

If you have any questions, please contact the volunteer office at 510-981-1987.

Please include a photo of yourself (jpg files as an attachment are preferred)

Data

Today's Date:

Full Name:

Name you prefer to be called:

Full Mailing Address:

Home Phone:

Cell phone:

Email address:

Age:

Date & Place of Birth:

Sex: M ___ F ___

Relationship Status:

Do you have any children or dependents? Please list ages and relationship to you.

Date you are available to start:

Length of commitment: (minimum 6 months, prefer 9 months)

Current Housing Arrangement: (rent, own, etc.)

Person to contact in case of emergency:

Name:

Phone:

Address:

Relationship to you:

How did you hear about Odiyan? Referral, online? Which web site or keywords?

Please include a photo of yourself (jpg attachment is preferred).

Education and Employment History

Education history:

List institutions, dates attended, degrees, field of study.

Do you have college loans?

Employment History:

List all employers, dates employed, position(s) held, or attach a resume, be sure to include reason for leaving each job.

Non-employer work experience:

References

Please list name and contact information, including email, for 4 references. Indicate how long you have known each reference. Include at least 2 employment/professional references (with dates of employment) and at least one reference from a family member or family friend (please specify) who has known you for at least 10 years. Volunteer-related and school references may be used.

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.

Application questions

1. Why are you excited about volunteering at Odiyan? How do you see this experience fitting onto your life right now?
2. How has your past work, schooling or general background prepared you for the challenging work and community life schedule.
3. Please describe how your individual goals and interests fit in with what you know of our community.
4. What role does work play in the overall scope of your life?
5. How would you rate your work ethic on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the hardest working?
6. Work in our community is variable. Do you have skills in any particular areas? i.e.: construction, cooking, IT, fundraising, maintenance, graphic design, social media, sewing, office administration, painting or others?
7. What are your hobbies or other interests? How do you spend your leisure time?
8. Please describe any exposure you have had to Buddhism or any other spiritual traditions. (Books, media, personal involvement)
9. Do you have the moral support of your family and/or friends for this commitment? Have you discussed this program with them? Explain briefly:

10. We all have strengths and weaknesses. What do you consider to be your weaknesses?

What are your greatest strengths?

11. Please include any other information about yourself that you would like to share.

Participation

12. Those willing to make a 6-9 month commitment to volunteer at Odiyan are asked to limit time away from the program and the Odiyan property. If you know in advance that you need to spend time away, such as a previous commitment to a family event) please let us know here.

Will you have any other obligations during the time you are volunteering including financial commitments, studies, medical treatments or spiritual practices?

Health and Personal History

13. The work at Odiyan requires physical stamina. Please describe your physical strength and abilities, height and weight and experience you have with physical work (if not described above).

14 .Do you have any chronic physical problems or health concerns? This could include chemical or environmental sensitivities, allergies, headaches, breathing sensitivities, shoulder, back or foot problems or pain, sensitive stomach, sleeping difficulties, etc.

15. Are you taking any prescription or over-the-counter medication? Please Describe.

16. Have you had any surgeries, major illnesses or injuries in the past? Please describe.

17. Have you been under the care of a mental health professional or a therapist in the past or are you currently? Please describe.

18. Have you ever been prescribed medications for any mental/emotional conditions? Please indicate duration, dates, reason, etc.

19. Have you ever had difficulty with abuse of or addiction to nicotine, alcohol, drugs or over-the-counter medications? Please describe.

20. Have you ever been convicted of a crime? Please describe.

21. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? Please give specifics.

22. Do you own a car? If so, what year, make and model

23. If you are from a foreign country, how long is your legal status in the U.S?

24. Please initial that you agree with the following:

I understand that volunteering at Odiyan is to fully commit to the work schedule, as well as assisting with cleaning, cooking and maintaining the facilities.

I will be flexible about placement for work at Odiyan

I understand educational opportunities and meditation are optional activities.

I will assume full responsibility for my own safety and assume the risk of any activity in which I agree to participate.

If I drive my car, I will have car insurance for my vehicle.

I understand I will be asked to leave for smoking or the use of illegal drugs.

I agree to have a back-up plan and adequate funds to carry it out if my stay does not work out to our mutual satisfaction.

Please Note: All the information on this application is held in privacy and will not be shared with any other entities, groups, organizations, businesses or mailing lists.

Thank you for applying to volunteer at Odiyan!