



**NEW YORK ZEN CENTER FOR CONTEMPLATIVE CARE**

70A Greenwich Ave. No. 333 New York, NY 10011-8300

info@zencare.org www.zencare.org 212.666.0249

Dear Training Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in our Foundations in Buddhist Contemplative Care Training Program. An application is enclosed. The curriculum for 2009/10 will be expanded and include newly invited visiting teachers. Listed below are the months for the training. Your attendance is requested at all sessions, and required at 9 out of the 10 weekends. If you are able to participate, we encourage your thoughtful and reflective completion of this application.

2009/2010 Scheduled Dates:

- |                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| - September 11 + 12 | - February 6  |
| - October 3         | - March 5 + 6 |
| - November 7        | - April 3     |
| - December 4 + 5    | - May 1       |
| - January 9         | - June 4 + 5  |

You may return your completed application to the address above. We encourage you to apply early as we review applications in the order we receive them. Once we have filled up a training group, applications will be held over for the following training. Enrollment in the training is limited and we have a strong commitment to diversity. Applications will be reviewed as they come in. We will call you to schedule an interview.

There is a tuition fee of \$2,450 to defray costs of this training, and an application fee of \$75. In cases of financial hardship, payment plans can be arranged upon request. You may also want to explore the option of having either an organization or friends and family sponsor you. A limited number of scholarships may be available.

If you have any other questions about the training or about the Center, please visit our website or contact us by phone. We look forward to hearing from you soon.



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**Foundations in Buddhist Contemplative Care Training Program  
Participant Application**

**Date of application:**

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Phone(s):**

**Email:**

**Date of Birth:**

**Contemplative Practice and/or tradition:**

**Are you presently working/studying? \_\_\_\_\_ Full \_\_\_\_\_ Part-time \_\_\_\_\_**

**What field of study/volunteering/work are you currently in?**

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**Please specify times during the week that you may be available for an interview. Flexibility is important:**

**M T W TH F:**

**Morning**

**Afternoon**

**Please answer the following questions in an attached essay.**

1. What is your occupation/course of study?
2. Do you have previous contemplative/spiritual caregiving experience? Please describe briefly, and/or attach a resume.
3. Do you have special skills? Please describe briefly. (i.e. healthcare, counseling, dharma teaching, foreign language, sangha leadership, theological training)
4. Do you have any physical limitations? If so, please describe briefly:
5. Have you spent time with someone very sick and/or dying? Or someone in a crisis? If so, please describe briefly:

Tell us why you want to be a program participant. Please respond to the following questions as thoughtfully and completely as you can, exploring your feelings and intentions. Be certain to cover all the points indicated. You may respond to each question individually or in an essay.

1. What is your understanding of contemplative caregiving?
2. How do you envision this training to be of benefit to you? To others?
3. Please describe your experience of caregiving relationships (i.e. chaplaincy, hospice volunteer, teaching, mentoring, counseling) Chaplains work with people with cancers, AIDS, dementia, as well as other illnesses and concerns. Describe your feelings about what it may be like for you to be with people with serious physical limitations or altered appearances resulting from their illness or its treatment.
4. Contemplative Caregivers provide emotional, spiritual and practical support for people from all walks of life who are experiencing crises of health, faith, identity, etc. What kinds of people and/or situations would you anticipate having the most difficulty working with and why?
5. Describe some of your personal experience with diversity in your life and dharma life (race, class, gender, sexual orientation, religion, size, (dis)ability, etc.) and how you have dealt with it.
6. If you are someone from a generally less represented population in the western dharma world, what kind of support would you find helpful in order to participate fully in this chaplaincy program?
7. Describe your personal experience with spiritual/meditation practice (list practice periods; endorsements; ordinations, if applicable)

8. It is important for participants of this program to have good emotional support in their own lives. What are sources of emotional support for you?
9. How do you take care of yourself? What are your challenges in self-care?
10. How do you feel about the time and energy required to participate in this training?
11. Do you anticipate anything which may interfere with fulfilling the 10 month commitment to the training? (i.e. family obligations, possible plans for relocation, future study, financial concerns?)
12. How do you envision using this training in your life?
13. Are there any additional thoughts that come up for you in completing this application, or anything else you would like us to know?
14. A letter of recommendation from a Buddhist teacher or someone who knows your contemplative practice is required. Please attach one to this application.
15. An application fee of \$75 is also required. Paid to: "NYZCCC."

Please note: this is a graduate level training that includes several self-directed learning components. **Once you are accepted you can register through our partner institution, Institute of Buddhist Studies to receive 6 Graduate Seminary Credits.** There is an additional charge, paid to IBS for these credits. Participants will be asked to commit to attending 9 out of 10 of the Training weekends, complete 100 hours of volunteer chaplaincy, attend monthly support groups, visit various religious centers, complete reading reports and written reflection essays, and attend supervision with your supervisor each month. **This training does not qualify you for a full-time job as a caregiver.** It does qualify you to apply to our CPE Professional Training. Professional chaplains are trained and credentialed by several organizations, like NYZCCC, and most employers require this credential. This training, however, can serve as preparation and discernment for people considering a career in professional caregiving.

How did you hear about the program?

Flyer \_\_\_\_\_ Advertisement \_\_\_\_\_ Internet \_\_\_\_\_ Friend \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for considering the NYZCCC's Foundations in Buddhist Contemplative Care Training Program as an opportunity for learning, practice, and service. We appreciate the time and thought involved in completing this application. Please return this application to:

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