

Queensland Sangha Association Inc (QSA)

SIDDHARTHA INSTITUTE OF BUDDHISM (Educational Division of QSA)

QUALIFYING COURSE FOR BUDDHIST COUNSELORS

(SIB Course number 201)

Date of this edition of course details 30 November 2021

WHO NEEDS TO ATTEND THIS COURSE

Dhamma Teachers including monks, nuns and lay persons and others who intend to be Dhamma teachers soon. Parents of children who intend to guide children will also be eligible.

COURSE PURPOSE AND PROCESS

The purpose of this course is to train intending Buddhist Youth Counsellors, including monks, nuns, and lay persons. They get trained in techniques to impart practical knowledge of the application of the Buddha Dhamma in day to life to young persons in two age groups, namely high school children and young adults. Parents need to be part of the process.

It is expected that trainees will equip themselves to guide youth to achieve mundane success and happiness, and at the same time, set themselves on a spiritual path advocated by the Buddha.

Individuals so trained will be assessed but will not be required to pass formal examinations.

The initial batches of trainees will become the master-trainers to train others in the future.

COURSE DURATION

The total duration is six hours and can be on one day or three days as convenient to the group and as suitable to the temple hosting the course.

COURSE CONTENT

SESSION -A

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| 1 | An overview of the book on teaching techniques | 30 min. |
| 2 | Presentations connected to Right View | 90 min. |

SESSION-B

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| 3 | Presentations connected to Concentration | 90 min. |
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SESSION-C

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| 4 | Presentations connected to Mindfulness | 90 min. |
| 5 | Clarifications, questions and answers | 60 min |

NOTES FOR COURSES DELIVERED TO YOUTH BY COUNSELLORS

In teaching young people, techniques can be chosen from the following and similar types of activities as and when required. Details are in the book recommended for reading. Subject matter can be taken from Dhamma books.

- A Inter-group guided communication-question and answer technique*
- B Inter-group guided communication-debating technique*
- C Giving a talk-preparation and delivery*
- D Leading a discussion-role of the leader*
- E Participation in a discussion-role of the participants*
- F Story telling techniques and relevance of stories*
- G Physical activities-organising a group (leaders, communications, performance, assessments)*
- H Engaging, utilising, specialists in singing, music, and drama*
- I Creativity in computers using spreadsheets and other programs*
- J Creativity regarding cultures, customs, and habits*
- K Making videos and films for the benefit of groups*
- L Conducting group discussions on the internet e.g. by ZOOM technology*
- M Meditation groups*

COURSE DATES and HOURS

These will be announced to registered participants for each repetition of the course.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

An applicant must possess one of the following qualifications:

- 1 A Buddhist monk or nun who can teach Buddhism in any tradition
- 2 A recognised Buddhism teacher in a school or university
- 3 A recognised Dhamma teacher in a Temple Dhamma School
- 4 A person recommended by a senior monk or nun

NOTE

When the course is held in a country other than Australia, suitable modifications can be made to suit the custom and practice in each country. Initially courses will be conducted using Zoom with participants from several countries. Country-specific courses will be commenced later. In Australia chaplains, teachers and counsellors for youth need to obtain a blue card.

COURSE ASSESSMENT

There will be no formal examinations. Assessments will be based on group discussions conducted by a Buddhist Counsellor or senior Dhamma teacher.

CERTIFICATES

Participation certificates will be issued by the Queensland Sangha Association Inc initially, and later delegated to other institutions as necessary.

COURSE FEES

No course fees will be charged but donations will be welcome to maintain the organisation.

HOW TO APPLY FOR ADMISSION

An email needs to be sent to QSA on infoqsa@gmail.com requesting admission

COURSE TEACHERS

Teachers suitable for the venue will be selected by the Siddhartha Institute of Buddhism, the educational division of QSA, or by a delegate. The authors of the recommended book will be the first teachers.

SUPERVISION

Within Australia, courses will be supervised by the Chairperson of the Siddhartha Institute of Buddhism, the educational division of QSA or a delegate.

Arrangements for other countries will be set up later.

The procedures necessary will be developed in conjunction with the Siddhartha Institute of Buddhism (SIB) the educational division of QSA.

INFORMATION

Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra

Email: infoqsa@gmail.com

Website: www.sanghaqld.org

This document is on the website. Please search for Services-Educational services-Siddhartha Institute of Buddhism-List of documents-Document 11

Address: Queensland Sangha Association Inc, 108, Eric Street, Goodna, Queensland 4300, Australia

(Only for posting of any important documents)

REFERENCE MATERIAL

Buddhist Chaplaincy by Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra published by QSA. Available on the QSA website. Hard copies too are available.

READING MATERIAL

This book titled *Practical Techniques for Teaching Buddhism to Youth*, written by Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra and Tanuja Yasanga Sarath-Chandra published by QSA. It is now available as an electronic book on the QSA website. Limited off-prints of selected pages will be issued to participants.

QSA can send copies of the book by email on request.

Copies of this document will be sent by email to participants, if requested.

[Parents of children must read at least chapters 1 to 4 if they intend to teach their children.]