

Dear Sangha:

The Bodhisattva, the ideal figure of Mahayana Zen, is characterized by many virtues. Among them is *dana*, giving. We also know that one of the Buddhist precepts is: Do not steal. The positive way of phrasing this precept is: Give generously. So together the precept reads: Do not steal; give generously. When we take, no matter what it is, without giving in return, we in effect steal. To become a contributing member of the Center is to right the balance between taking what the Center has to offer and responding with generosity.

There are many ways of giving besides money. Money is necessary to run the Center, but not sufficient. You support the Center with your attendance and practice. And many of you contribute time and work most generously to do various jobs and projects to keep the Center running.

Many thanks for your giving.

Gassho,

Pat

Zen Center of Philadelphia
4904 Cedar Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19143
<https://www.zencenterphiladelphia.net/>

Ways to Support the Center

Become a member and contribute dues. The Board of Directors has set the following membership dues structure:

- Limited income membership: \$35
- Basic membership: \$60/month
- Sustaining membership: +\$60/month

Attend a sesshin (all-day sit). The fees are:

- Member: \$30
- Non-Member: \$35
- Bowls: \$10

ZCP programs and classes fees are as follows: \$10 donation for each session of a study group.

To help us track payments and ZCP finances, please pay fees using a clearly labeled check (please do not mix payments on a single check) or submit cash payments in clearly labeled envelopes. Donations may be left in the Dana Bowl with no envelope.

No one will be turned away. Prospective members and visitors who can't afford the limited income option or anyone who wishes to participate in ZCP programs can discuss options with the teachers. The important thing is to make a commitment to support the sangha and sustain your practice. The amount is less important.

Zen Center of Philadelphia Membership Application

If you wish to become a member of the Zen Center of Philadelphia, please fill out and print the ZCP membership application form below and return a signed copy to the Zen Center.

Date: _____

I, _____, wish to become a member of the Zen Center of Philadelphia. I pledge _____ per month in dues. If at any time my situation changes and I can no longer maintain this pledge or wish to change the amount, I will contact the treasurer.

Signed _____