

APPLICATION

(Companion document to Program Description)

2025-2026 Dhamma Study and Practice Program (DSPP)

Insight Meditation Community of Charlotte

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

PRACTICE INFORMATION

1. When did you first begin practicing insight (vipassana) meditation? _____
2. List below the silent, residential **vipassana** or metta retreats you have attended. If you have attended many retreats, list the most recent ones, as well as the longest, in a way that the total number of retreat nights adds up to at least seven. (Those who do not have seven or more nights of vipassana retreat time, but who have spent a significant amount of time in either the study of the Dharma or the practice in another lineage, are still encouraged to apply.)

Month/year	Location	Teacher(s)	No. of Nights
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
Total number of nights (should add up to at least 7)			_____

3. List any classes, series, and retreats that you have participated in through **IMC Charlotte**.

Month/year	Title	Teacher(s)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

4. What **other places** have you studied the teachings of the Buddha? If you have studied on your own, please describe.

5. If you have practiced the teachings of the Buddha in **other** traditions, please detail which lineage/teacher/center and the length of involvement.

6. Who have been your most important teachers?

7. Please list and describe any sitting groups or sanghas of which you are currently a part.

PERSONAL ESSAY

In one type-written page or less, tell us about yourself, why you want to participate in the DSPP, and what you hope to get out of it. Feel free to include anything else you would like us to know.

ADMINISTRATIVE

You will be expected to work with one or more mentors during the term of the program. This relationship will include monthly sessions, either in person, by phone, or on Zoom. The mentor(s) will be available to support you in your study and practice. You will be paired with one or more program teachers to serve as your mentor(s).

SIGNATURE AND MAILING

I have reviewed the DSPP companion document "Program Description." If accepted, I agree to attend and participate in all components of the program, other than absences due to health or family emergencies. I understand that consistent absence is a disservice to other participants in the program, as well as those who were not admitted due to space limitations.

Signature _____ Date _____

Send your completed application via US Mail by February 15, 2025, to:

IMC Charlotte DSPP
c/o Clyde Alexander
5721 Murrayhill Road
Charlotte, North Carolina 28210

QUESTIONS

If you have further questions about the DSPP or this application, please contact one of the teachers:

Ward Simmons
WardSimmons@bellsouth.net
704-995-4860

Clyde Alexander
CAofNC@yahoo.com
704-299-0385

Thia Powers
ThiaPowersAmen@gmail.com
704-562-7292

Denise Owens
DDHereNow8@gmail.com
980-297-1785

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS – IMPORTANT, PLEASE READ

Timeline

- February 15 Application must be postmarked on or before this date
- February 22 Email confirmation that application has been received
- March 15 Email notification of decision (invited, waitlisted, or declined)
- March 22 Invited applicants must confirm intention to participate
- March 31 Tuition payment due
- April 22 Program begins

Notes

- Please do not send supplemental materials with your application (e.g. letters of recommendation, writings, photos, poems, etc.)
- Please notify IMC Charlotte of any changes in your contact information that occur after you submit your application.
- Applications will not be returned. Please keep a copy for your records.
- Please do not inquire about the status of your application before March 15.
- The contents of this application will be reviewed by IMC Charlotte personnel involved in the program. The contents will not be shared outside of those involved with the program.
- Payment of the full amount of the tuition is due upon the applicant's confirmation of intention to participate and must be received no later than March 31.
- Limited tuition scholarship funds are available to support program participants. All applications will be considered equally, regardless of ability to pay. Upon an offer of admission, applicants will have the opportunity to request scholarship assistance. IMC Charlotte will make reasonable efforts to award any amount requested but may not be able to fulfill the entire request.
- The service of the teachers/mentors is sustained by the generosity of each participant. The teachers/mentors offer their services on a donation (dana) basis. No part of the tuition is shared with the teachers/mentors.