

Vaishnava Training Academy

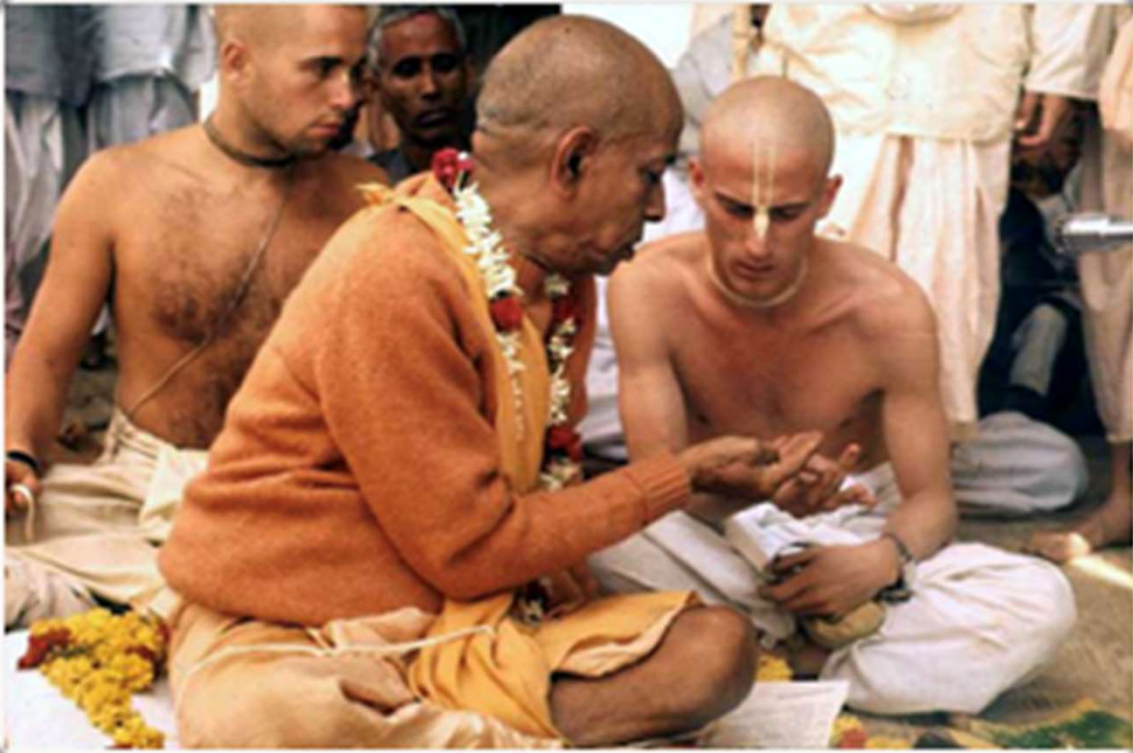
Level -1

ISKCON Chowpatty

Information Brochure



Srila Prabhupada's Emphasis on Training



We have enough of technological and other types of educational institutions, but perhaps there is none where actual brahmanas and Vaishnavas are produced. So we will have to establish an educational institution for that purpose.

- Srila Prabhupada,
January 12, 1969

Vision

The V.T.A Level-1 (VTA-1) program at Sri Sri Radha Gopinath Mandir is meant to be a solid training ground for youth in Srila Prabhupada's movement to blossom into ideal Vaishnavas who are spiritually awakened and culturally aligned.

Objectives

1. To become self-inspired and self-disciplined to practice sincere sadhana for entire life time.
2. To imbibe qualities which are characteristic of a vaishnava.
3. To possess basic skills in terms of preaching, kirtan, deity worship and cooking etc.
4. To possess elementary knowledge of history, culture & philosophy of Krishna consciousness to be able to properly represent ISKCON to the world outside.
5. To possess skills and values in terms of community living especially cooperation, tolerance, team work, contribution etc.
6. To maintain good standards of personal health & cleanliness.
7. To generate genuine respect for people in all categories of society.

Holistic Training Model

Anandamaya
Kosha

- Sadhana
- Guru pada-ashraya
- Seva

Vijnanamaya
Kosha

- Deep study of Scriptures
- Study skills
- Time Management
- Cultivating divine

Manomaya
Kosha

- qualities
- Harmonising Paradoxes
- Dealing with tricks of mind

Pranamaya
Kosha

- Deity Worship Skills
- Yoga
- Musical Skills

Annamaya
Kosha

- Health Tips
- Cooking skills
- Hygiene & Cleanliness



Classes

Three Trimesters: (2023-24)

Mar 26th – July 31st

Aug 1st – Nov 31st

Dec 1st – Mar 26th

Class Timings:

Week days: 7:00 am – 8:00 am

Sunday: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Ishta goshti : Monthly once

SERVICES

1. Chandan seva: opportunity to grind sandalwood for deity seva.
2. Kitchen seva: on festival and Prerana days.
3. Special seva: for any services during yatras and festivals.
4. Shoe stall seva: Every Sunday (7 am to 1 pm in rotation).
5. Opportunity to assist in organizing VTA -1, IYS and Kartik Yatras.



United we grow...



QUALIFICATIONS

- Should have been chanting minimum 16 rounds for 2 years.
- Has been following four regulative principles for 2 years
- Has been recommended by his counsellor for joining VTA-1.
- Preferably should have stayed in one of our BACEs for over one year. Incase of not having BACE stay experience, candidate will be on *probation* period for 2 months.
- If parents are congregation devotees then candidate should have stayed in a BACE for at least 2 months to get used to morning program standards of VTA.
- Should be working in a job *outside* the temple.



Dress code

The devotees should be clean viz.,

- Wear dhoti, kurta, tilak.
- Not wear western clothes.
- Not keep moustache, beard, long hair etc.
- Clean shave alternate day

Tenure

- Candidate is expected to spend maximum time undergoing training during this period.
- Reporting date 25th March 2023.
- VTA-1 tenure ends by 26th March 2024

Attendance

- Devotees should have minimum 75% presence in all the trimesters.
- Maximum leaves allowed are 22 (2 per month) with valid reasons.





DO's

- / Should treat this facility as a solid training ground in Krishna consciousness.
- / Should attend morning program from 4:20 AM onwards, failing which a fine will be applicable
- / Should be present in the temple hall for Narsimha Arati, Tulasi puja and Japa till 6:50 am.
- / Should try to maintain spiritual consciousness and avoid gossip/mundane talks.
- / Should display sincerity and eagerness in rendering any allotted service in the temple.
- / Should align with the temple rules and follow them strictly.
- / Should keep VTA premises clean.
- / Should keep all their belongings in the allotted locker ONLY. No bag, suitcase etc. should be kept in VTA premises, however we do allow luggage bags to keep above the cupboard.
- / Clothes and other articles kept outside will be confiscated. Confiscated items are returned after paying stipulated fine.
- / One must get prior permission from VTA Admin for leave, whenever one leaves temple campus overnight.



DON'Ts

- Should not engage in unnecessary gossip.
- Should not borrow/ lend money from fellow VTA-mates.
- Should not invite his non-VTA friends into VTA premises or ashram area.
- Should not request use of temple e-mail/ computers, fax/ telephone etc.
- Should not keep their clothes and other items hanging here and there.
- Should not stay overnight outside, without prior permission from Admin.
- Should not work in a job which inhibits him to attend morning program.
- Should not sleep in VTA lockers area during the night.



Once in a lifetime chance!



Admission will be based on submitting an application form, and then a personal interview.

Last Date for Applying: 18th Dec, 2022 (**Sunday**)

Interview Date: will be informed to candidates on application

VTA Level -1 starts on: 25th March , 2023 (**Saturday**)

Interested candidates or preachers can email:

vtassrgm@gmail.com

Fees

All charges to be paid on or before 7th of every month, else a Late Fee will be levied: ₹ 200/- per week.

Accommodation: ₹ 2,000/- per month

Deposit: ₹ 1,100/-

Prasadam charges per meal: (subject to change)

Breakfast: ₹ 60/-

Lunch: ₹ 90/- (Roti, Sabji)

Dinner: ₹ 50/-

Milk: ₹ 20/-

Alumni speaks...

VTA is a one year course but its impact and learning will be going to help me in whole life. Whole course is designed in such a manner that every aspect of practical life was discussed thoroughly. From physical health to health of mind, from devotional services to cooking, was taught by one of the finest speakers from the ISKCON world

- Pankaj Sharma, Sr.Engineer, AFCONS Infrastructure

VTA is a wonderful adventure in the direction of Sri Sri Radha Gopinathji and Their loving servants. I met profound philosophical truths from advanced Vaishnavas clearing illusory doubts and genuinely caring hearts, living by their own example. Loved Darshans, Kirtans, Mahaprasadam Feasts, Sweet Rice, Yatras, Sevas and much more... Must for every IYS devotee... Very grateful to the VTA admins for their compassion and VTA mates for friendship and fun...

Sumeet Khode, Senior R&D Engineer, , Tejas Networks

