

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please fill in the following information and send the original and a copy to:

Ministry for Sannyasa Services • c/o ISKCON Radhadesh • Château de Petite Somme 5 • B-6940 Septon • Durbuy • Belgium, as well as a soft (electronic) copy to the minister Prahlanananda Swami [prahlanananda.swami@pamho.net] and to the assistant secretary Dhruva Das [dhruvadasa108@gmail.com].
Please use a separate paper to answer questions wherever necessary (A4 paper size is preferable).
Electronic copies of the application must reach the secretary before the deadline.

Please carefully read both this application and the GBC resolutions that apply to sannyasa candidacy, which are at the end of this document. You are required to provide all the information that is relevant to your situation.

Principal Requirements:

When applying to become a sannyasa candidate, you must send the Sannyasa Ministry:

1. A signed letter from a GBC member who agrees to sponsor you
2. A signed letter from the sannyasi who has agreed to become your sannyasa guru.
3. A national or regional council must agree to recommend you. The name of the national or regional council that is supporting your candidacy so the sannyasa minister can send the members an evaluation form.

Below is a description of the duties that the endorsing GBC member and proposed sannyasa guru will have to perform. One of their duties is to submit reports about evaluations of your qualifications to become a sannyasi. You should know that if your recommending GBC member or proposed sannyasa guru withdraws their endorsement, then your candidacy is cancelled. For these reasons you should choose devotees who know you well, are interested in evaluating your qualifications, and are willing to help you improve your devotional service and consciousness as may be deemed necessary by the sannyasa committee or other ISKCON authorities.

Applicants from India:

Applicants for sannyasa residing and/or serving in India, before applying at the ministry, must first procure a written recommendation from the IIAC (ISKCON India Advisory Council).

Without IIAC certificate their application will be refused.

In addition, for applicants residing and/or serving in Mayapur, must submit a written recommendation from the GBCom. (We'll have to see what will be the final title)

Duties of the Recommending National/Regional Council:

The recommendation of the National Council is meant to certify that the members of the National or Regional Council (in India the Divisional Council [North, East, South, or West]) agree that the applicant for sannyasa has acquired the qualities of a sannyasi:

- Fearless
- Controls his senses, especially sex desire
- Has made accomplishments in the area of preaching
- Learned in the scriptures and can apply the teaching in a practical way.
- Possessing brahminical qualities such as cleanliness and truthfulness
- Has practically demonstrated leadership qualities and abilities
- Submission and cooperation with authorities
- Strictly following rules and regulations of sadhana bhakti

The council members should discuss whether the candidate has these qualities before the chairperson signs the recommendation. By issuing the recommendation the National/Regional Council agrees, at least on an annual basis, to evaluate the preaching performance of the candidate and send yearly an evaluation report before the 31st of October to the assistant secretary of the Sannyasa Ministry by email: tasc.evaluationreport@gmail.com.

The present application should include the names and email addresses of the members of the National/Regional Council. Each member of the council must commit to reply to evaluation questionnaires/survey send to him or her by the secretariat of the Sannyasa Ministry. The Chairperson of the council or his/her representative must be prepared to participate at least once/year in a conference call and discuss the progress of the sannyasa candidate with the members of the TASC (Team for Assessment of Sannyasa Candidates).

Sannyasi Mentor:

It will be necessary for you to have at least one sannyasi mentor who has personal experience of your sadhana, preaching style, general behavior, and devotional qualities. You must be with him or another sannyasi mentor for at least two weeks each year. At least three months before the AGM, that sannyasi must submit to the sannyasa minister an evaluation of your performance during this period.

Assigned Mission:

Unless exempted, you must be willing to go preaching for at least one month, at your own expense, to some area assigned to you by the GBC Executive Committee and the Sannyasa Ministry.

Referees:

Send the sannyasa minister the names and email addresses of 10 senior devotees who you think know you well enough to be able to assess your qualifications to become a sannyasa candidate.

Also, send the Sannyasa Minister the names of 5 senior devotees who you think can act as your mentors during your sannyasa candidacy.

Meeting with the Sannyasa Committee:

You will be required to appear before the Sannyasa Standing Committee at the AGM (Annual General Meeting) the year you apply to become a sannyasa candidate, and again when you are on the one-year waiting list. If you fail to do either, your application may be cancelled or you may not be awarded sannyasa. If there are extenuating circumstances, the date when you meet with the Sannyasa Committee may be adjusted if you inform the sannyasa minister at least three months before the GBC AGM.

Deadline:

The deadline for applying for sannyasa is the 30th of November preceding the Mayapura GBC meetings. Applicants are recommended to apply and send soft copies of their application form, digital picture and all required documents, such as certificates and recommendations, by email to the assistant secretary (dhruvadasa108@gmail.com) for verification before the end of October. Incomplete applications, or applications sent after the deadline, will be refused.

Digital picture:

Applicants need to provide a digital passport picture. The photograph will be used to present your data before the plenary GBC meeting in Mayapur. Please ensure that the picture is nice (smiling, nicely shaven, fresh tilaka on your forehead).

Application Fee:

From the 1st of January 2016 onwards there is an application fee of \$US 250.00 to be paid before November 30 of the year of application.

The fee is payable only via bank transfer. The bank details are posted at the end of this rubric (see point 9). As communication for the bank transfer you should mention "Application Fee Sannyasa Candidate: [name] [year = previous year]" and inform the treasurer by email (bhakti.prabhava.swami@gmail.com) of your payment via bank transfer. If you have a valid reason for being unable to pay via bank transfer then you may pay in cash to the secretary during the following Mayapura GBC meetings provided the payment of 20% extra for covering bank costs and to compensate change rate differences. Paid fees are non-reimbursable.

Annual Fee:

From the 1st January 2016 there is an Annual Fee of \$US 100.00 due by all sannyasa candidates. The fee is payable from the 1st of January 2016 onwards for all sannyasa candidates who have been on the official approved GBC sannyasa waiting list during the previous year. The fee is payable only via bank transfer. The bank details are:

Lloyds Bank
Units 32 & 32a, INTU Shopping Centre,
Watford,

WD17 2UB
Account Name: ISKCON Ltd - UK FOUNDATION
Account number: 00767595
Bank sort code: 30-99-21
BIC number: LOYDGB21147
IBAN number: GB61 LOYD 3099 2100 7675 95

As communication with the bank transfer you should mention:

“Annual Fee Sannyasa Candidate: [name] [year = previous year]” and inform the treasurer by email (bhakti.prabhava.swami@gmail.com) of your payment via bank transfer. If you have a valid reason for being unable to pay via bank transfer then you may pay in cash to the secretary during the following Mayapura GBC meetings provided the payment of 20% extra for covering bank costs and to compensate change rate differences. The deadline for the payment is the last day of the Mayapur GBC meetings following the year that one has been on the sannyasa waiting list. Paid fees are non-reimbursable.

Duties of Sannyasa Candidates

Applicants agree to perform the duties of sannyasa candidates explained at the end of this document. This includes the yearly submission of an annual report, a financial report, etc.

Research Period:

After acceptance of your application, the secretariat of the Sannyasa Ministry will send a questionnaire to all referees that you provided in your application. Their responses together with your application data will be submitted to the TASC (Team for Assessment of Sannyasa Candidates) who will evaluate and consider your application. Their recommendations may be modified by the members of the Sannyasa Committee before presenting them to the plenary GBC for voting.

Important:

In the event that you develop a major health problem, or if you change your residence or service, you should submit a report to the Sannyasa Minister at least one month before the AGM.
(Prahladananda.Swami@pamho.net)

Please note that applying for sannyasa and/or being accepted as a sannyasa candidate does not insure that you will be awarded sannyasa. The sannyasa committee may recommend to the GBC body to remove any sannyasa candidate from the list of candidates. Furthermore, the Sannyasa Standing Committee is not responsible for the decisions of the GBC body.
Responsibility for the completion of this application lies entirely with the sannyasa candidate.

Some Reasons Why Applications may be Refused:

- Missing Bhakti Sastri certificate
- Invalid Bhakti Sastri certificate; the certificate must be approved by the ISKCON Board for Examination
- For Indian applicants: missing IIAC certificate
- Missing recommendations or documents
- Application submitted after the deadline of 30th November
- Application fee not received before 30th of November

Guidelines for Filling in the Application Form:

Proposed Sannyasa Mentor – mention only the name of your main mentor

Asking to take sannyasa in how many years – minimum is two years, if younger than age 50, three years; younger than age 45, four years, and younger than age 35, five years (see GBC resolutions 1979)

Recommending GBC – you can only have one recommending GBC –please note the duties of a recommending GBC mentioned hereafter

Bhakti Sastri Diploma – must be certified by the ISKCON Board of Examination

Devotional history – please have it reviewed by an English editor

Duties of the GBC Recommending Member:

The GBC member who is recommending a candidate for sannyasa must, based on personal experience, be able to attest to the fact that the candidate is exemplary in the following areas:

1. **Devotional Sadhana:** the candidate is regularly attending the normal morning program and, ideally, the evening temple program as well. Furthermore, he is visibly chanting at least 16 rounds each day. It is especially important that the candidate is rising early and regularly attending *mangala arotika*.
2. **Sastric Knowledge:** the candidate has a clear and ample grasp of the vaishnava *siddhanta* and can convey this knowledge in an inspiring way to both experienced and inexperienced devotees. He should be able to present the philosophy of Krishna consciousness in a systematic way to innocent people and convey transcendental knowledge to them in a compassionate and enlightening manner according to time, place, and circumstance.
3. **Cooperation with ISKCON Authorities:** the candidate should be able to communicate with authorities and follow their recommendations without engaging in unnecessary or counterproductive politics. If there are differences between the authorities and him, he should be able to work them out in a mature manner without creating an unnecessary disturbance.

4. Preaching Leader: the candidate must be able to inspire devotees in the standard principles of preaching that Srila Prabhupada has given us, especially distributing transcendental literature, chanting the holy names in public, and distributing *prasadam*

He must also be able to encourage the devotees to follow the instructions of Srila Prabhupada and put the same emphasis as Srila Prabhupada did on areas such as *gurukula* and *varnasrama*.

5. Control of the Senses and Mind: the candidate must be able to deal appropriately with all different levels of devotees, especially those of the opposite gender.

6. Normal and Exemplary Behavior: the candidate should appear normal both in public and in his dealings with the devotees. He should not be exceptionally eccentric and a possible embarrassment to the *sannyasa ashrama*.

7. Complaints: if there are complaints about the sannyasa candidate whom you are recommending, then the sannyasa committee will consider it your responsibility to inform the candidate about the complaints and, if necessary, to assist the candidate in rectifying any undesirable behavior. It is also your responsibility to assist him in acquiring the expertise or skills necessary to achieve the level of Krishna consciousness and devotional service appropriate for a sannyasi.

Please make sure to include the following:

- Two passport photos of yourself (smiling please)
- Letter of recommendation from national or regional council.
- A statement from your proposed sannyasa guru that he is willing to serve as your sannyasa guru.
- A written recommendation of your GBC, in which the recommending GBC Zonal Representative confirms that s/he will follow the duties of a Recommending GBC as explained in the beginning of this document.
- A signed oath of loyalty to ISKCON.
- If applicable, legal separation or divorce papers from your wife.
- If applicable, a written statement from your wife that she is in agreement with your taking sannyasa. (it is not necessary to be divorced from your wife in order to apply or take sannyasa)
- Photo copy of bhakti sastri diploma.
- A separate letter with a resume detailing your devotional career in ISKCON or other similar spiritual organizations.
- A separate letter explaining your reasons for wanting to take sannyasa.
- Names of 10 senior ISKCON devotees (i.e. Sannyasis, GBC's, temple presidents etc.) Who can give an assessment of your qualifications to take sannyasa. *(please send their names, mailing addresses, and e-mail addresses)*
- Names of 5 senior devotees who you trust can act as your mentors and give the sannyasa ministry feedback as to your preaching and devotional advancement. *(they can be among the 10 mentioned above)*
- Please affirm your willingness to travel and preach for 1 or 2 months a year under the direction of the sannyasa ministry and the GBC Executive Committee.
- Please put your name on each document enclosed with this application.
- Devotional history

Templates for most of recommendation letters can be downloaded from the download section of sannaysacandidates.com

PERSONAL DATA

Date of Application			
Date Accepted	<i>Note: To be filled out by Sannyasa Committee Secretary</i>		
Spiritual Name			
Legal Name			
Date of Birth	Month:	Day:	Year:
City and Country of birth	City:	Country:	
Time of birth			
Address			
Main contact person (name and email)			
Telephone no.	Office #	Home #	Cell Phone #
Fax no.			
Best contact method			
Legal Nationality			
Legal Residence			

SPIRITUAL INFORMATION:

Year joined the movement			
Year of initiation	1st:	2nd:	Sannyasa:
Spiritual master			
Years of re-initiation	1st:	2 nd	Sannyasa
Spiritual master			
<i>(If your spiritual master is not currently a member of ISKCON, state which movement he belongs to?)</i>			
Proposed sannyasa guru			
Proposed sannyasa mentor			
Who is the main senior devotee overseeing your sannyasa candidacy (name & e-mail)?			
Asking for Sannyasa in how many years			

GBC Involvement

Recommending GBC		
I have enclosed the oath of loyalty to the GBC. I have enclosed the recommendation letter from a National or Regional Council.	Yes	No

FAMILY INFORMATION

Marital status	Never married	Brahmacari How long have you been a brahmacari?	Married Year of marriage	Divorced Year of divorce*	Separated Year separated*		
Wife's ** Name	Address:			Date of birth	Service/ Occupation		
	E mail:						
	Telephone #:						
Children's Names	Gender	Age	Address	Email address	Current Phone #	Grade in school	Occupation

How are wife and children supported?	
How will they be supported after you take sannyasa?	
Under whose material and spiritual care will your wife be under?	

* Please enclose legal separation or divorce papers

** Please enclose a written statement by your wife that she is in agreement that her husband taking sannyasa.

SCRIPTURAL TESTS PASSED

Bhakti Sastri	<i>(If yes please include photocopy of diploma)</i> yes no
Other	
ISKCON Leadership Seminar	<i>(Did you attend the ISKCON Leadership Seminar)</i> yes no If 'yes' please mention the place and date when you attended the seminar:

SERVICES / INTEREST / EXPERTISE

<p>Current Services (in the temple and for outreach)</p>	
<p>What are your future preaching plans?</p>	
<p>Dates (one month) available for missions during the coming year</p>	
<p>How do you currently finance your travels?</p>	
<p>First language</p>	
<p>Other languages fluently spoken (languages in which you feel capable of preaching effectively)</p>	
<p>Other languages in which you are able to communicate, but would not be able to preach effectively</p>	
<p>Current areas (places) of service</p>	
<p>Expertise in different services</p>	
<p>What is your experience in leading and training <i>brahmacaris</i>?</p>	
<p>Interest in different services</p>	
<p>Other things that you are interested in</p>	

Enclose a separate letter explaining your reasons for wanting to take sannyasa.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Have you ever been convicted of a felony?

(If yes, please include a separate sheet with details of conviction)

no yes

Have you ever been investigated by the ISKCON Child Protection Office?

(If yes, please include a separate sheet with details of investigation) no yes

Have you ever left ISKCON?

no yes

(If so, when and for how long?)

Have you broken any of the regulative principles within the last 10 years?

yes

no

CONVICTIONS

Please answer yes or no

yes no

1. Srila Prabhupada is the Founder-*Acarya* of ISKCON.
2. The GBC is the ultimate authority within ISKCON.
3. My preaching will emphasize the same principles of devotional service that Srila Prabhupada did, namely book distribution, prasada distribution, and harinam sankirtan
4. I believe that the only initiating guru in ISKCON should be Srila Prabhupada.
(Please explain)
5. ISKCON members should have the right to associate unrestrictedly with the *Gaudiya Matha* or other groups.
(Please explain)
6. I believe that Srila Prabhupada was poisoned by his followers.
(Please explain)
7. The GBC should be subordinate to independent *diksa* gurus.
(Please explain)

TRAINING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1.	I am willing to attend training courses that will help me improve my service.
2.	I am willing to be trained by a mentor or other senior sannyasis up to two months/year.
3.	I am willing to disclose my financial accounts

OTHER THINGS THE SANNYASA COMMITTEE SHOULD KNOW?

Please list other things you think the Sannyasa Committee should know, such as a different sexual orientation than what is considered normal.

DEVOTIONAL HISTORY

You are hereby requested to provide us with a story of your devotional life, since you joined ISKCON (please write your devotional history on a separate page)

We need this information for the purpose of posting information about all the sannyasa candidates on our website. [Http://sannyasacandidates.com/](http://sannyasacandidates.com/)

What you write will be read by ISKCON devotees, including GBC members.

Members of the public may also visit the site and read what you have written.

You may like to take help of some of your English speaking friends to edit what you write, so that it is more suitable for publishing on our website.

The devotional history should be minimum 250 words and maximum 1000 words.

Your devotional history should be in the form of a story. The story should include the following:

1. Where and when were you born?
2. Personal details about your life and spiritual inspiration.
3. Where and when did you join ISKCON?
4. How you joined ISKCON.
5. Where and when did you receive 1st and 2nd initiation?
6. A list of some services you performed.
7. Where are you currently based?
8. What are your current services?
9. Which devotional activities do you feel most enthusiastic about?
10. How did you get inspired on the path of renunciation?
11. How will taking sannyasa will help you in your service?

To be completed by the secretariat:

Annual report of recommending GBC

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

Relevant G.B.C. Resolutions for Sannyasa Candidacy

G.B.C. Resolutions 1975

Resolved: Method of initiating sannyasi:

Each year at Gaur Purnima festival, any GBC member can nominate a man from his zone for sannyasa.

G.B.C. Resolutions 1979

5. **That** the qualifications of a Sannyasi are to be listed, and all candidates are to be examined on the basis of these qualifications before their names are accepted on the list of candidates for Sannyas.

GBC Rules of Order

The Qualifications for Sannyasa:

A. How free is he from sex desire?

1. How long has he been a Brahmachari?
2. How long has he been living away from his wife?

B. What is his preaching record?

Is it demonstrated his ability to preach strongly? Is he a preaching leader?

Has he been doing this for a respectable amount of time?

C. Is he very strict in his personal conduct?

Is he beyond suspicion?

D. Is he philosophically strong?

E. Is he willing to accept fully the authority of the GBC and work under the auspices of the GBC?.

F. Does he have the proper quality of leadership to train and lead brahmacaries who are under his direction?

G. Is he self-reliant?

Has he the ability to keep himself continuously engaged in some way which contributes positively to our preaching work?.

H. Is the field of his preaching after taking Sannyasa clear and acceptable to the GBC or other authorities?

57. **That** a grhastha or vanaprastha should not take the sannyasa order, unless:

a. the wife is in agreement by writing, and all necessary legal separation papers are provided whenever possible.

b. all of the daughters are married or financially independent or of legal majority age

c. the sons are self-supporting, or of majority age, and the father has no further

legal responsibility

d. he has arranged financial support for the wife if there are no grown sons or sons-in-law who have agreed to provide support; and

e. He agrees that, in principle, ISKCON is not responsible for such support or

arrangements.

That a brahmacari be considered for sannyasa only if he has actually strictly followed his vows for at least ten years and is at least forty years old.

In exceptional cases, a man may be awarded sannyasa before the age of forty by a 2/3 majority vote of the GBC Body. (now 4/5 vote)

To take sannyasa at the age of 50, one must have been on a waiting list for two years:

at 45, three years;

at 40, four years, and
at 35, five years.

GBC resolution 1991

20. **That** ISKCON Law 88-57 is modified. Any of the provisions of the requirements for sannyasa waiting list and approvals may be waived in exceptional cases by a vote of at least 4/5ths majority of the GBC.

GBC resolution 1993

74. **That** the sponsor of a proposal for a candidate for sannyasa should each year give a report of the candidate's qualifications according to the GBC Rules of Order, "The Qualification for Sannyasa." To be put on the list an initial report is required. Thereafter an annual report is also necessary.

GBC resolution 1995

22. **That** sannyasa candidates must meet personally with the Sannyasa committee in Mayapur before receiving final approval for taking sannyasa, unless exempted by the Sannyasa Minister.

23. **That** candidates for sannyasa must submit their applications in accordance with the GBC Rules of Order and include along with the statement by a GBC member listing the candidate's qualifications to take sannyasa, a letter written by the candidate explaining his reasons for wanting to accept sannyasa.

GBC resolution 1996

110. **That** applications for sannyasa candidacy should include written endorsements from the local GBC(s) and the local managerial body or bodies where the candidate serves. In addition it should include a resume detailing the candidate's devotional career.

111. **That** a standing GBC sub-committee be established to deal with sannyasa matters. Prahladananda Swami will finalize its members in consultation with this year's GBC executive committee.

GBC resolution 1997

[LAW] 102. That when the GBC Body approves a candidate for sannyasa, they reserve the right to assign the candidate a mission of their choice which may take him far from his previous area of service. Before making such an assignment, the GBC Body shall discuss the suitability of the candidate for the assigned mission with the local GBC, the Sannyasa Committee, the candidate's sannyasa guru and the candidate.

[LAW] 301. That a devotee must pass the Bhakti Sastri test before being placed on the sannyasa waiting list. Those who are currently on the list must pass the Bhakti Sastri test before taking sannyasa. Exceptions to this require a 2/3 vote of the GBC Body.

Duties of Sannyasa Candidates

1. Devotional History

The applicant for *sannyasa* becomes a *sannyasa* candidate by a majority vote of the plenary GBC body. After he has been placed on the *sannyasa* waiting list, the secretary for the ISKCON Ministry for Sannyasa will request the new candidate to send him within one month a 'devotional history'. A 'devotional history' refers to a text written by the candidate in which he presents his own history since his joining ISKCON up to the present. To write this text the candidate should seek the help of an English editor. Examples of such texts can be viewed on the sannyasa candidate website: → sannyasacandidates.com → candidates → Present Candidates → Bio-presentations Sannyasa Candidates.

2. Sannyasa Candidate Travel Record

All sannyasa candidates are required to submit their travel record at latest two weeks after the end of each quarter. The data concerns a list of all places visited by the candidate and the period of visit and can be submitted via the website: → sannyasacandidates.com → Candidates → Reports → Travel Record.

3. Visited ISKCON Centers

Each candidate is obliged to submit the data of the places they have visited after each visit. This can be done on-line: sannyasacandidates.com → Candidates → Reports → Database Input:

It is concerned with the following information:

Database of ISKCON Centers Visited by Sannyasa Candidates

Please fill in the below posted form for each center you have visited this year.

Name Sannyasa Candidate

Temple or place you have visited

Please mention hereafter the period of your visit and the number of days you spent at the concerned temple or place:

CONTACT DATA OF THREE PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TEMPLE/CENTER

1. Name
1. Position
1. E-mail Address
1. Phone

- 2. Name
- 2. Position
- 2. E-mail Address
- 2. Phone
- 3. Name
- 3. Position
- 3. E-mail Address
- 3. Phone

Do the persons mentioned above understand and speak/write English? If not, please mention their native language(s) in the field for comments.

- yes
- no

Comments

You can use this field to present reasons why you were not able to complete the data requested above or to mention the native language(s) of the contact persons if they do not speak English sufficiently for offering feedback on your performance

4. Annual Report

The Annual Report is a report submitted by the candidate, which states his activities performed as a sannyasa candidate during the last year. This report needs to be submitted before 15 November of current year. It is concerned with the following data and questions:

Sannyasa Candidate Annual Report

Your name

Report for the calendar year

Date of filling in form

Name of mentor

Your postal address

Your e-maill address(es)

Your telephone number(s)

Website(s)

List the countries and cities that you have visited this year

If you like you can make some comments about the temples or countries you have visited

Please let us know what were the services you rendered as a sannyasa candidate this year

What preaching projects are your planning to do in the future?

What were your realizations about aspiring for the sannyasa ashrama, or preaching, or ISKCON this year?

Anything else you would like the Sannyasa Ministry to know?

The candidate can submit this report on-line: -> sannyasacandidates.com -> Candidates -> Reports -> Annual Report or by downloading and filling in the standard form (sannyasacandidates.com → Downloads) and sending it to the secretary.

5. Mentor Report

The candidate should remind his mentor (preferably right after travelling with him) to submit the mentor report. The mentor can submit the report on-line via → sannyasacandidates.com → Candidates → Reports → Mentor Report or it can be send by email as an attached file to the secretary. The document fill-in form can be downloaded from → sannyasacandidates.com → Downloads.

6. Sannyasa Candidate Self-Assessment

Every candidate requires to fill-in a self-assessment form and submits it before 15 November of the current year. This can done on-line via → sannyasacandidates.com → candidates → Self-Assessment (not yet operational)

7. Financial Report

All sannyasa candidates need to keep track of their finances during the year. It is the duty of the sannyasa candidates to submit a financial report with regard to their income and expenses for the current year from the 1st of January up to October 15. They need to submit their report (by sending it to Lilasuka.BCS@pamho.net) at latest by November of the current year. The report form for submitting the reports is downloadable from sannyasacandidates.com → Download

It can be downloaded either the Word or Excel format. The report needs to be submitted in US\$ only. This means that there may be a need to convert local currency in US\$. It is also important that they only use the categories available on the document.

Once the candidate graduates and has received sannyasa he will need to continue this duty. However, at that time the GBC Secretary will contact him and request him to send the report directly to him.

GBC members who are on the sannyasa waiting list are exempt. They already comply with this yearly duty as GBC members.

8. Report Recommending GBC

The candidate should remind every year their recommending GBC to submit his report before the 15th of November of the current year. This report can be submitted on-line via → sannyasacandidates.com → Candidates → Reports → RGBC-PSG Report

9. Report Proposed Sannyasa Guru

The candidate should remind every year their proposed sannyasa guru to submit his report before the 15th of November of the current year. This report can be submitted on-line via → sannyasacandidates.com → Candidates → Reports → RGBC-PSG Report

10. Missions

The assignment of a mission is meant to present sannyasa candidates a special preaching opportunity outside the normal realm of their preaching area; an experience that offers them challenges and gives benefits to the local area. It also allows the ministry to receive an additional evaluation of the sannyasa candidate's preaching performance. The secretary of the ISKCON Ministry for Sannyasa will inform the candidate of the attribution of an assignment.

11. ISKCON Leadership Seminar

Each candidate requires to attend the ISKCON Leadership Seminar at least once during his term as sannyasa candidate. The seminar is presented nearly every year in Mayapur after or before the GBC meetings.

12. Travelling with Another Sannyasi

Each candidate requires every year to travel at least two weeks together with another sannyasi (usually the mentor).

Oath of Allegiance



ISKCON Governing Body Commission Society
Founder-Acarya His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

Oath of Allegiance

I, _____, sannyasa candidate, make the following oath:

- 1) I accept His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada as the Founder-*acarya* and supreme authority of ISKCON. I will follow his teachings, instructions and directions.
- 2) I accept the Governing Body Commission of ISKCON as the ultimate managing authority of ISKCON, as directed in Srila Prabhupada's last will and testament.
- 3) I will abide by the Society's spiritual rules, namely: no illicit sex, no intoxication, no gambling, no meat-eating and chant a minimum of sixteen rounds of *maha-mantra japa* every day. I will follow the principles set forth in Srila Prabhupada's books.
- 4) I accept that all of ISKCON's funds, assets and properties under my control or direction, including anything ISKCON may have acquired under my direction, is the sole property of ISKCON and in the event of my death, resignation or other relinquishment of all ISKCON responsibilities, all these shall accrue solely to ISKCON and at all times I shall have no claim on them whatsoever.
- 5) I will be guided by the directions of ISKCON's management, cooperate with the local GBC representative, and fulfill my duties in a serving spirit never intentionally acting against ISKCON's interests.
- 6) I will maintain the spiritual programs, standards, and teachings established by Srila Prabhupada in the projects and with the devotees placed in my care. I further agree not to involve the Society or those devotees placed under my care in any activities contrary to the above mentioned principles.

Dated: _____

Signature: _____

Example of a Letter of Recommendation by a National/Regional Council

Date:

Letter of Recommendation by

To the GBC Sannyasa Services Committee,

With this letter, I am confirming that _____ Dasa applied for a recommendation for sannyasa. On the basis of the resolution [number], dated [date] the..... National/Regional Council is recommending that the candidate be put on the waiting list for sannyasa and permits the candidate to file their application at the ISKCON Ministry for Sannyasa.

TheNational/Regional Council certifies that the candidate has a Bhakti Sastri certificate approved by the ISKCON Board for Examination, and has developed a preaching field. During the candidates' waiting period (after approval by the GBC body) theNational/Regional Council, or its delegated committee, will continue to follow up the preaching performance of the sannyasa candidate and commits to regularly exchange their observations of the candidate with the secretariat of the ISKCON Ministry for Sannyasa.

Your servant,
Chairman

Example of a Letter of Recommendation by a GBC Member

Dear GBC Sannyasa Services Committee,

Please accept my obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

I have read the duties of a GBC member who is sponsoring a candidate for sannyasa. I agree to perform those duties and on that basis I am recommending that _____ be put on the list of sannyasa candidates.

Your servant,
