

TEEN CHALLENGE of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

GENERAL INFORMATION
AND
INDUCTION GUIDELINES



Effective Date: May 2016

General Information and Induction Guidelines

Please read this entire form for important information.

When contacting Teen Challenge of Southern California (TCSC) for assistance, it is important that the individual seeking help makes the contact themselves. There is an application, as well as other necessary paperwork, and an interview that ***must be completed by the applicant***. A health screening is also required. In the event it is determined that TCSC is not in the best interest of an applicant, a referral will be provided to another program or programs that offer the most effective and appropriate services to the applicant. Please check our website, www.teenchallenge.org or www.teenchallengeusa.com for additional information or facility locations.

What is TCSC's mission?

Teen Challenge of Southern California, Inc., is a nonprofit Christian organization, whose primary purpose is to provide youth, adults and families with an effective and comprehensive Christian faith-based solution to life-controlling drug and alcohol problems in order to become productive members of society. By applying biblical principles, Teen Challenge endeavors to help people become mentally sound, emotionally balanced, socially adjusted, physically well, and spiritually alive.

Who does TCSC help?

With the exception of the Timothy House in Santa Ana, TCSC is intended for persons eighteen years of age or older who have a drug and/or alcohol related life-controlling problem and have a sincere desire to change. Timothy House is for adolescent males, ages 12-17. For information call 714-835-8822.

- 1) **Drug habit:** Consistent use and abuse over a long period of time.
- 2) **Alcohol habit:** Consistent use and abuse over a long period time.
- 3) **Emotional problems:** Problems that stem from drug and alcohol abuse. Others will be considered on an individual basis.
- 4) **Behavioral problems:** Problems due to lack of taking responsibility, lack of self-discipline, lack of motivation, lack of self-esteem and laziness that results from drug and/or alcohol use.

What does TCSC offer?

TCSC is concerned with the “total person”. The program structure considers each person’s spiritual, mental, physical, social and educational needs.

Spiritually: TCSC deals with a person’s problems as symptoms that relate to deeper problems and conflicts. Zeroing in on a person’s spiritual needs is where real healing in that life begins. Instead of “copping out” they find, through faith in Christ, the changing power that gives the ability to cope with problems and live a more effective life.

Mentally: The rebuilding of an abused mind is of key importance. The consistent study of the Bible enhances mental growth by serving as the foundation for the restructuring of broken-down thought patterns, creating new, more stable ways of life.

Physically: TCSC cares for such needs on a long-term basis. Assistance is provided for shelter, food, clothing and recreation.

Socially: Through the benefits of a group living situation, students work out relationship problems to more successfully relate to family and peers. Such interaction promotes a strong character of moral fiber and right attitudes and desires.

Educationally: Through collective efforts with local school districts, those who have not completed high school have the opportunity to complete their high school education or earn their General Equivalency Diploma (GED).

How does TCSC work?

Since Teen Challenge was founded in 1958, it has developed a multi-step model. These steps include Outreach and Evangelism, Crisis Assessment and Referral, Induction Center, Training Center, Apprenticeship, Re-entry, and Ministry Institute. The residential recovery program is the most widely known aspect of TCSC and consists of the Induction, Training, and Apprenticeship steps. Those considering the residential program must be willing to commit twelve months in order to successfully complete it.

Step 1: Outreach and Evangelism - all TCSC programs carry out this step in some aspect of their program. TCSC reaches out to those who need help through jail visits, pre-induction chapel services, school assemblies, street rallies, prevention programs and support groups. This step is the core of the process and the reason why Teen Challenge was birthed. In its very essence, this step entails going out into the community, seeking those who require the assistance of TCSC, and making them aware that life can be better.

Step 2: Crisis Assessment and Referral - is the process of assisting individuals deal with crises involving the use and/or abuse of drugs and alcohol. It provides an appropriate and accurate referral to services that are conducive to his/her needs.

Step 3: Induction Center Generally three to four months. Men's Induction Centers are located in Shafter, Reedley, Santa Ana and San Diego. Women's Induction Centers are located in Lynwood and Bakersfield. This is the first phase of the residential recovery services offered by TCSC. It is often commonly referred to as "entering" the program. During this phase the student will experience all aspects of the program after an initial orientation. Withdrawal is achieved without medical assistance. TCSC is not a medical facility and therefore, it is not a substitute for medical or psychological care. TCSC never advises anyone to stop taking prescribed medications or cancel their doctor's care. (Referrals will be provided to another program or programs that offer the most effective and appropriate services to the applicant whenever necessary). During the Induction Center phase the daily routines consist of prayer, devotions, chapel, group studies, personalized studies, chores and work projects, or recreational activities, etc. A foundation in Christ is established prior to students transferring to the Training Center phase.

Students are not allowed to have outside jobs, attend outside classes or schedule appointments during their enrollment in the Induction or Training phase because of very structured program schedules.

Step 4: Training Center Generally eight months. The women's Training Center is located in Ventura, the men's Training Centers are located in Riverside and Reedley. Upon successful completion of the Induction phase, the student is transferred to a training center (Please note that the Training Centers are generally located in separate counties from the Induction Centers. If this is the case, it is important for those on probation or parole that their probation or parole officers understand this inter-county transfer will be made.) This phase trains students in life skills, as well as providing classes in character education. Biblical instruction focuses on teaching Christian moral values, responsibility and dependability. Through collective efforts with the local school district those who have not completed high school are given the opportunity to complete their high school education or earn their General Equivalency Diploma (GED). The program provides "student to student" interaction during class, work, recreation and free time. Experienced staff members are on hand to help students deal with various problems with care and compassion.

Step 5: Apprenticeship Following successful completion of the Training Center phase, students who choose to continue their discipleship may participate in an apprenticeship which allows them to apply what they have learned as a student by being a role model for the students. Typically, this apprenticeship takes place at a TCSC Induction or Training center.

Step 6: Re-entry This may be offered after graduation if a participant chooses to establish residence in the area of the program instead of going back home. Normally the program consists of part-time help at the TCSC Center and a 6 month commitment involving a mentoring relationship, finding a job and pursuing a career, the establishment of a bank account, purchasing an automobile, and other necessary stages towards independence.

Step 7: Ministry Institute Teen Challenge Ministry Institute (TCMI) prepares men and women for Christian service through an intensive one year course that combines applied biblical studies with hands-on urban ministry. Located in South Gate, TCMI graduates serve with distinction as pastors, business people, civic leaders and missionaries literally around the world. There is a tuition fee associated with TCMI, please call 323-569-2818 for more information.

THE TCSC CURRICULUM

The TCSC curriculum is designed to help students discover how life-controlling problems develop and how to avoid those problems. It can also help them learn how to identify the spiritual and emotional conditions that contribute to a problem and assist them along the paths of total recovery. The main goal of these classes is to help the students discover ways to apply Biblical truths to their daily living.

The Teen Challenge classes may include:

How Can I Know I'm a Christian?
A Quick Look at the Bible
Attitudes
Temptation
Successful Christian Living
Growing Through Failure
Christian Practices (Local Church Relationships and Practices)
Obedience to God
Obedience to Man
Anger and Personal Rights
How to Study the Bible
Love and Accepting Myself
Personal Relationships with Others
Spiritual Power and the Supernatural
Personal Studies for New Christians – Scripture Memorization,
Character Qualities, Lessons and Devotional Reports that
teach foundational truths, goal setting for application, and
character development.
Alive in Christ
Solving Life's Problems
Christian Maturity
Prayer and Worship
Responsible Christian (stewardship)
People, Tasks and Goals (leadership)
Tents, Temples and Palaces (Old Testament survey)
The Kingdom, The Power, and The Glory (New Testament
survey)
The Christian Church in Ministry
Battlefield Of The Mind
The Bait Of Satan
Marriage In The Home

Teen Challenge-certified instructors teach TCSC classes. Each class takes from two weeks to three months to complete, depending on the class and the phase the student is in. Classes are held two to five times a week, again depending on the class and the phase the student is in. Homework is assigned in each class and the student is given scheduled "study hall" times to complete it.

SOME BASIC RULES YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFORE ENTERING TCSC

Mail, Phone Calls, & Visits:

All communications and visits are restricted to immediate family or to key individuals identified and approved at the time of induction.

Mail may be sent and received upon admission. Incoming mail can be sent to the street address of the center where the student is a resident.

For the purposes of helping students adjust to the TCSC environment phone contact cannot be made for the first 10 days in Induction. After that, Induction Center Guidelines permit a maximum of 2 calls 15 minutes in length per week. Phone procedures during the training center phase permit additional calling based upon the length of time a student has at the Training Center. For example: Students in the final period of their time in a Training Center may be permitted additional phone calls as part of their planning for transition after Teen Challenge.

Family days, for immediate family members or those on the approved visitation list, are scheduled on a regular basis by each center. Family may bring food and beverages. All visitors are required to honor the TCSC guidelines during their visit. No alcohol or smoking is permitted on TCSC property. Dates and times for Family Day will be given to the student as the event approaches. When the student completes the Induction phase limited off grounds student passes may be issued.

Dress-code:

Modesty is required at all times. Clothing must be gender appropriate. No extreme styles are allowed. Clothing and jewelry may not have sayings, logos or symbols that are suggestive, drug, alcohol, occult, zodiac, new-age or secular music related. No body piercing rings or studs allowed for men or women

Men: Dark slacks, dress shoes, white dress shirts and a tie will be required for choir outings and/or special events. Nice casual dress clothes may be worn to church. Nice jeans or walking shorts may be worn to class. Each student must be completely dressed at all times, including

shoes and socks. Also, a robe or large bath towel must be worn to and from the showers. No long hair, beards or extreme styles. No shaved heads. Absolutely no earrings, plugs or body piercing jewelry are permitted.

Women: Mid-knee dresses or skirts are required for church. Walking shorts are allowed during specific times. No revealing neck or back lines; no slits above the knee; no bare midriff or tight fitting clothing will be permitted. A bra is required. A slip is also required to be worn with all dresses and skirts. A robe and house shoes are also required. Only two earrings allowed at a time. Absolutely no ear cartilage, plugs or body piercing jewelry are permitted.

Upon Admission: A complete check-in search of all belongings will be conducted immediately upon arrival. **All unauthorized materials will be confiscated.**

Tobacco and use of tobacco products including vapes and any derivatives is not permitted at any time for anyone enrolled at TCSC. Smoking, alcoholic beverages, or illegal drugs, no mood or mind altering medications, no narcotic or detox medications are allowed on TCSC property. **TCSC is not a medical facility and therefore, it is not a substitute for medical or psychological care. We never advise anyone to stop taking prescribed medications or cancel their doctor's care.** (Referrals will be provided to another program or programs that offer the most effective and appropriate services to the applicant whenever necessary). Furthermore, aspirins, cold medicines, vitamins (a multi-vitamin only) and prescription medications will be kept in a locked cabinet in the office and administered by the staff.

During the induction phase, all money will be kept in a student account. Money will be given out as needed for personal items such as toiletries, stationery, needed clothing, etc. Money may be sent to the student or dropped off at the center where the student is a resident. **No personal checks. ONLY Cash or Postal money order will be accepted.** Money orders should be made payable to the student - **not** TCSC. Money orders can be cashed at a local check cashing facility. We prefer families send "care packages" with the toiletries or clothing the student needs rather than money.

Portable radios and CD players are allowed only to enhance Christian growth. The Women's home has their own; please do not bring any to the Women's home. No headphones will be permitted. No secular music will be allowed.

No books, magazines or other personal reading material, other than a Bible, concordance or dictionary will be permitted.

Only photographs of immediate family members or those on the approved list are allowed.

Do not bring gum, sodas or any other food items. Absolutely no food will be kept in the students rooms other than individually wrapped hard candies in a sealed container. No eating any food items in the dorms.

Conversation at TCSC should be positive in nature. No jail talk, drug talk, street slang, gossiping, cursing, backbiting or sharing of past experiences that is not uplifting in nature will be allowed.

What is required to apply for the Residential Program?

Because TCSC is offered without charge to those who need our help, we ask that only those who fit into the following categories apply:

You must have a sincere desire to change your lifestyle.

You must desire what TCSC has to offer.

You must be willing to follow all of the TCSC rules and guidelines.

What are the application guidelines?

Before admission:

Fill out an application and complete the interview process.

Settle all legal matters.

Complete all medical and dental treatments.

Make arrangements for the safe care of any children during the 12-month commitment.

Show proof of the necessary items on the **prerequisite list**.

Prerequisite list:

Social Security card or a receipt showing you recently applied for one.

Valid Picture ID card, Driver's License or Passport or a receipt showing you recently applied for one.

A copy of paycheck stubs if employed within 60 days prior to induction.

A bank statement verifying any current or recently closed bank accounts.

Terminate all Welfare and/or Unemployment benefits and show proof.

A completed TCSC application.

A complete physical exam including: a **general physical**, a **TB**, HIV, Hep, and VD test (also a pregnancy test for women).

SSI or Disability benefit papers stating the reason why you are receiving said income and how much you are receiving.

A copy of your marriage license if married.

Return bus fare to the city of origin.

