

# Teen Challenge Peoria-Men's Division

## *What to look forward to when you want to change your life!* **FAQ**

### **How do I get started?**

Every man looking for entrance into the Teen Challenge Peoria program must complete an application. Whether the application is done over the phone, faxed, or through email the application must be completed by the man looking to gain entrance into the program, not a family member, lawyer, or loved one. Upon completion of the application the Intake Coordinator will call you back to discuss the details.

### **Is there Financial Assistance available?**

Teen Challenge Peoria does have a financial assistance program available for those that qualify. The financial assistance program is very long and thorough; if you are not completely committed to finishing the entire program please do not begin the financial assistance program. The program begins with a one page explanation of "Why you think Teen Challenge is for you" and continues with an involved referral process. This process only begins after the initial application has been completed.

### **What the Intake process is like?**

The Intake process begins with the application and ends with a scheduled time and day to come into the program with the Intake Coordinator. Once the details of Family, Legal, and Medical have been processed then a day and time can be scheduled. On the scheduled day you can expect a little anxiety when entering something new. The Intake Coordinator will complete all the intake policy and procedure paperwork with the new client and his support team often consisting of loved ones and family. After the intake process is complete the applicant will then become a resident or client of Teen Challenge Peoria and be expected to abide by such policy and procedures discussed later in this material.

### **How long is the program?**

The Teen Challenge program through the Peoria Center consists of two phases. The induction phase and the training phase. The induction phase at Teen Challenge Peoria is a minimum of four months. There are two choices for second phase Rehersburg, PA and Cape Girardeau, MO; both are a minimum of 10 months in length. For individuals on parole or probation and not able to leave the state there has been established a second phase at our center in Chicago, IL which is also 10 months in length.

### **What if I have a complicated legal situation?**

Teen Challenge Peoria staff can and has worked with several court systems, state's attorneys, and probation or parole offices all across the state of Illinois. We will work within your particular situation to help you gain access to the type of treatment Teen Challenge Peoria has to offer. Please remember that we will work with you and your specific legal requirements but it is still the court or legal departments' courtesy or requirement to allow you participation in the Teen Challenge Peoria program.

### **What if I have court dates?**

The schedule of the program is rigorous and we would like you to resolve all your court dates before entering the program. If you cannot, then an allowance of one court date may be provided at the courtesy of Teen Challenge Peoria supervising staff.

### **What if I have a complicated medical situation?**

It is not Teen Challenge Peoria's policy to allow any type of psychotropic or mood-stabilizing medication into the facility. We are not medically licensed to oversee or dispense these medications therefore we do not allow any client to receive them. Several clients have taken themselves, with a physician's recommendation or supervision, off their medication to do the Teen Challenge program and complete successfully. If mood-stabilizing or psychotropic medications are a part of your routine please consult

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your prescriber before taking yourself off of them. Other medications such as cholesterol or blood pressure medications can be allowed and dispensed.

## **What about transportation?**

When you are entering the program it is your responsibility to find transportation to the facility. However, if you are coming in from out of town we do pick-ups at the airport and bus station. If there are any appointments or court dates while you are in the program there are two options: #1 You can submit a request for someone from your approved Contact List to transport you in and from the appointment or #2 Teen Challenge Peoria staff may transport you upon payment of a mandatory transportation fee based on time and mileage.

## **What about my family and loved ones?**

For the first four months Teen Challenge Peoria has a schedule set up so our residents can interact with their loved ones on a regular basis through mail, phone calls and visits. During the intake process a contact list is drawn up consisting of immediate family only (mother, father, brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, and one pastor for support). It is Teen Challenge Peoria policy for there not to be any contact between the residents and those individuals considered to be girlfriends, ex-wives, and/or fiancées; only wives with the presentation of a valid marriage certificate. Letters can be written to anyone on the approved Contact List anytime. After the first 14 days our residents can make receive and make phone calls Saturday between 1pm and 5pm and Sunday between 1pm and 5pm, respectively with anyone on the approved Contact List. Also after the first 30 days our residents can receive visits on Saturday between 1pm and 5pm with anyone on the approved Contact List.

## **What should I bring with me when I enter the program?**

Please limit the amount of clothing you bring. Bring enough dress clothes (including a black belt and one pair of black dress pants) and work clothes for about eight days and one pair of black dress shoes, gym shoes, and shower shoes. Your family will be able to send you care packages if you run out of hygiene products so you should at least bring enough for about 4-6 weeks. The most important things to bring will be a photo ID and your bible. If you do not have a bible the program can provide one for you. You must have a photo ID to enter the Teen Challenge Peoria program.

## **What should I not bring with me to the program?**

Please do not bring any weapons, outside reading material, jewelry (only a watch and wedding ring are allowed). Also, T-shirts with skulls, worldly music logos, and drug references are not allowed. Please leave ALL electronic devices and financial materials (i.e. checkbook, debit cards, ATM cards, bank account information, stock or mutual fund information, etc.) in a secure place as it is not allowed in the program.

## **What if I decide to leave before I complete the program?**

In the unfortunate event that a client would terminate his treatment early it has been Teen Challenge Peoria policy to bring all local clients (home address within 50 miles) to the local mission. If an out-of-town client decides to terminate his treatment early he can be brought to the local bus station or airport. Teen Challenge Peoria does not purchase bus or plane tickets for clients that leave treatment before completion. It is not Teen Challenge policy to release any personal account monies to a student that terminates his treatment early. The balance of a student's personal account is sent to the address on his application in as a money order.

***For any questions not covered in this material  
please email [tcj@teenchallengepeoria.org](mailto:tcj@teenchallengepeoria.org) or call 309.673.3716***



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## Student Agreement

While participating in the program:

### A. I agree...

*\* Violation of the following agreements denoted with an asterisk below may result in immediate dismissal.*

1. It is the policy of Teen Challenge Peoria not to release any personal or account money to any student/resident that terminates their treatment relationship with Teen Challenge Peoria before their date of induction completion. Any account moneys will be mailed to the mailing address on the intake application or the emergency contact address in the form of a money order.
2. Not to damage walls, vehicles, tools, chairs, etc. Intentional damage may result in immediate dismissal from the program. \* (Students will be responsible for repayment of damage to TC property.)
3. Not to possess any weapons, lighters, or matches. \*
4. Not to leave the group when on work details, at church, at recreation, at the doctor, dentist, court, or at any other outing. I understand that, if I leave the group I have left the program. \*
5. I understand that a violation of these agreements or my refusal to complete a discipline will result in my dismissal from the program, even if I am mandated to the program or on probation. \*
6. **To willfully strike a staff, alumni, intern, or a fellow student with intent to inflict bodily injury will be cause for immediate dismissal.** \*
7. Any student who walks off the job site is automatically dismissed for the program - no exceptions. \*
8. Not to horseplay, wrestle, shadow box, or fight. \*
9. **If you are caught bringing into the building, or it is brought to the staff's attention that you brought into the building (and items are confiscated) or it is found on you personally any drugs (of any kind) or alcohol, it is an automatic dismissal from the program and you are not allowed to reapply for 30 days.** \*
10. If you are caught bringing into the building, or it is brought to the staff's attention that you brought into the building (and items are confiscated) or it is found on you personally any tobacco products (anything having to do with tobacco), you will be given an extra 30 days. **(POSSIBLE DISCHARGE)\***
11. Not to use drugs, alcohol, inhalants, or tobacco. \*
12. Not to touch, answer, or use any of the phones without specific staff permission. \*
13. Not to wear gang colors, make gang signs, or represent gangs in any way. \*
14. Not to use racial terms, nor make fun of different ethnic or racial groups. \*

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15. To complete the entire 14 month program. \*
16. Not to take anything from anyone that does not belong to me (stealing). \*
17. Not to personally receive any unemployment compensation benefits while in the program. \*

## **B. General House Behavior**

1. To forfeit any belongings that I might leave behind if I leave the program and do not pick them up within 48 hours.
2. Not to touch or adjust thermostats, phones, fans, sound equipment, radios, televisions, or video equipment without staff permission will result in discipline.
3. No contact with girlfriends, ex-wives or fiancés during the induction phase of the program. (considered Intake Policy infraction and result in 30 day program extension)
4. Visitors may never give anything directly to a student. A violation of this rule will result in immediate termination of the visit and possible discipline.
5. To notify the staff of any court, probation, or parole problem etc.
6. To notify the staff immediately if I am sick, injured, or have any ongoing medical problems. This includes cuts, scrapes, twisted ankles, jammed fingers, fevers, night sweats, etc.
7. To stay in bed for the entire day if put on sick call by the staff.
8. To take my medication at the assigned times (must bring water). All non-prescriptions medicines need doctor's note to exceed recommended dosage.
9. To allow prescribed medication to be dispensed by the staff.
10. To work diligently at all assignments, chores, and activities.
11. Not to bring or use any credit cards or any other card of financial or monetary value.
12. To pray during prayer time, using appropriate posture and in such a way as to not disturb others. Posture determined by staff.
13. To awaken at the proper time each day and not to return to bed until bedtime (w/ o Staff approval).
14. To go to bed at the appointed time, to be quiet during "quiet time" and not to leave my bed except to use the bathroom after lights out.
15. Not to sleep, talk, laugh, eat or drink during prayer, chapel, class, study hall, or church service (without Staff approval).
16. The Kitchen is off limits except with Staff approval or if there is an assigned task.
17. Not to purchase, read, or obtain any books, magazines, newspapers, flyers, brochures, literature (Christian or non-Christian) without prior staff approval.
18. Not to make any requests of off-duty staff members.
19. Not to go to students to find out what Teen Challenge policy is. I will live by the maxim, "When in doubt, check it out with staff".
20. To obey a staff member even if he denies my request and not to go to another staff member with the same request without the first staff member's permission.
21. Not to argue with a staff member, nor to talk back to him, but to always show proper respect for the staff member's position when talking with him.

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22. To obey the instructions of any staff member.
23. Not to borrow anything from anyone without prior staff approval. This includes money, books, clothes, etc.
24. Not to roam the building or enter other dorms or rooms without proper permission.
25. To keep my room, closet or locker area, desk, nightstand etc. neat and clean at all times, and not to leave anything on top, around, or outside my locker or closet.
26. To conduct myself in a gentlemanly manner at all times.
27. Not to curse, use street language (slang), or a foreign language.
28. Not to talk about my past life or things that could cause others to stumble, such as sex, drugs, gangs, etc.
29. Not to sing, hum, whistle, rap, or play secular songs.
30. Not to call people names or use nicknames.
31. Not to argue or complain about anything to anyone. If I have problems, I will bring it to the staff.
32. Not to wear any type of hat while in the building.
33. Not to be involved in coarse jesting, crude jokes, or practical jokes.
34. Not to flirt or start new relationships with females while in the program.
35. Not to change my marital status (including getting engaged) while in the program.
36. Not to give my name or address or phone number to anyone except for personal mail from individuals on my contact list.
37. Not to get out of bed, disturb others, or take a shower before the "wake-up" call.
38. To be in the dining room within three minutes for roll call and devotions before each meal.
39. To be on time for all activities and to be in place for prayer, chapel, class, work details, studyhall, devotions and lights out.
40. To complete all class assignments, homework, and disciplines, and to hand them in on time.
41. To submit to any discipline given to me for the violation of these agreements.
42. To not "hang out" in office area near the bench, at the window nor the table near the door.
43. When on sick call you will be given broth for meals.
44. If you are sick on Friday you will be required to stay in your bed on Saturday.
45. No working out (as defined by Staff) in your rooms.

### C. Kitchen/Dining Rules

- 1) Not to enter the kitchen or pantry areas except to perform assigned tasks.
- 2) Not to take any food or drink out of the kitchen or pantry areas. No food or drink is to leave the kitchen or dining areas at any time.
- 3) Not to store food or candy in my clothes, room, or locker.
- 4) Not to take more food than I can eat, and to finish my meal completely.
- 5) Not to complain about the food, but to be grateful for having something to eat.
- 6) Not to make special requests of the cook, not to request extra portions or to complain to him about the food or portions.
- 7) Not to trade or share my food or drink without staff permission.

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## **D. Teen Challenge Vehicles**

1. Not to enter any Teen Challenge vehicle without staff permission.
2. To be careful and courteous while riding in a vehicle, and not to distract the driver.

## **E. Teen Challenge Property**

1. To be considerate of all Teen Challenge property.
2. All fans and lights must be turned off when leaving your room.
3. Not to lean back on chairs, put my feet on furniture or walls, write on walls, desks, library books, or textbooks.
4. If you are using your air conditioner all windows in your room must be closed.
5. To notify the staff of any breakage or damage of property immediately.
6. Not open or close blinds, windows, or exterior doors with out staff permission.
7. Not to unlock or open any doors, or admit anyone into the building without specific staff permission.
8. Not to use any Teen Challenge equipment without specific staff permission.

## **F. Personal Hygiene**

1. To arise from bed at the appointed time and proceed to shave, brush my teeth, make my bed, and clean up my area, all before breakfast.
2. To shower at least once a day, to use deodorant, and to be clean and fresh smelling all day.
3. To shave or use "magic shave" daily.
4. Not to wear a beard and to be clean-shaven at all times.
5. To keep my mustache trimmed to the bottom of the top lip:
6. To keep sideburns trimmed to the middle of the ear.
7. Not to wear a radical haircut or to request the barber to give a radical haircut. All haircuts must meet staff approval.

## **G. Church, Ministries & Other Outings**

1. To abide by all the agreements, even when I am away from the TC building: at church, work detail, fund raising, doctor office, court, field trips, etc.
2. To obey the instructions of the staff at all times.
3. To be prepared for church, chapel, and class by bringing the required materials such as Bible, books, pens, paper, etc., and to be appropriately dressed for choir outings.
4. To participate in church, chapel, class, and all activities to the best of my ability.
5. Not to sign any church registries or sign up for any catalogues, mailings, etc.
6. Not to take church literature (except bulletin) on church outings.
7. To use the bathroom before leaving for church or an activity and not to use the bathroom until returning home.
8. To sit with the group at all services, tours, trips, and activities.

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## H. Dress Code

1. To wear socks and shoes at all times. No slippers or sandals will be allowed on the first floor (class, chapel, and lunchroom), at work details, or at church. No gym shoes for church.
2. To wear a belt at all times, unless the style of pants has no loops.
3. To be fully dressed at all times between breakfast and bedtime.
4. Not to wear any T-shirts, tank tops, or sleeveless shirts except during recreation or in-house work details (with staff permission).
5. No white tee shirts or dago tees to be worn as your primary shirt.
6. Not to wear any torn or ripped clothing.
7. To dress daily in a collared shirt, only top button open, jeans/pants, socks, and shoes.
8. To keep my shirt fully tucked in and waistband visible.
9. To always wear a shirt at work and recreation
10. To dress for church with a collared dress shirt, tie, sport coat, or suit or sweater, belt/suspenders, socks, dress shoes.
11. No pajama pants on First Floor.

## I. Work Experience Program

1. If a student is fired from a job, he will receive a minimum of 30 days “extra” in the program. A student is also subject to dismissal at the staff’s discretion. A second offense is automatic dismissal from the program.
2. Any student who uses the telephone while off property will receive 30 days “extra” in the program for the first offense. A student is also subject to dismissal at the staff’s discretion.
3. A student may only miss 3 days of work while in induction for being sick. The fourth time a student misses work the student will receive 30 extra days in the program. The fifth time a student will be dismissed from Teen Challenge Peoria.

## J. Dismissal from the Program

I understand that if I am dismissed from the program or leave by own choice, I cannot return for at least 30 days, and that Teen Challenge is not obligated to take me back. I must reapply for the program and pay another full entry fee, deposit money for return transportation, and may have to get another physical exam.

**Departures outside business hours may not have access to their secured funds until the next business day.**

## K. Phone Calls

1. A student must be a resident in the program a minimum of 15 days before his first telephone call.
2. Students may receive calls only from those individuals listed on their approved list. **(2PTS)**

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3. The only females you may receive calls from are those you are related to and are on your approved list.
4. Students may receive only one ten-minute in-coming phone call on Saturday afternoons between 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Student's can either receive or make one ten-minute out going call on Sunday afternoon after return from a church outing.
5. Students may not receive phone calls at any other time unless student's return late from a church outing then staff on duty will designate time.

### **L. Mail/Correspondence**

1. Students may receive mail any time after entering the program.
2. Students may receive mail only from approved individuals.
3. Only immediate family members, spouse, and pastors will be approved.
4. All mail will be opened in the presence of the staff and checked if necessary.
5. Any mail sent out of the facility without processing through official channels will result in discipline - discipline is subject to the staff's discretion.
6. Mail is subject to the staff's approval.
7. Mail is a privilege - not a right.

### **M. Visitation**

1. Visiting hours are on Saturdays only, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
2. Visits are allowed only after the student has completed 30 days in the program.
3. Only approved individuals may visit.
4. Visitors must dress modestly or the visit may be refused.
5. Students are to be dressed appropriately with collared shirt tucked in, socks and a belt. Nice blue jeans and nice tennis shoes are acceptable attire.
6. All visitors must check in, with the staff, read and sign a copy of the visiting rules before a visit will be permitted.
7. Visitors must remain on the first floor and may not roam the building.
8. Visitors are never to encourage a student to leave the program prematurely. A student's success in overcoming his addiction is directly related to his willingness to complete the entire 12-month program.
9. Visitors who encourage the students to break Teen Challenge rules will lose their privilege to visit.
10. There is to be **NO CELL PHONE USE** during visitations. Visitors must leave cell phones in their cars.
11. No tours of the building during visitation hours.

### **N. Gifts**

1. Visitors should never feel compelled to bring gifts for the students.
2. Gifts must be presented to the student in the office in the presence of the staff.
3. Students may not personally receive gifts of food, drink, snacks, or candy.

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4. Food items may be donated to Teen Challenge. The staff must approve all gifts of food in advance. All such gifts are considered as donations to Teen Challenge and will be distributed as the Director of the program designates.
5. All gifts and transactions between a student and his family must take place during regular visiting hours on Saturday.

## O. Passes

1. Passes are a privilege not a right, and may be reduced or cancelled by the staff if deemed necessary.
2. Passes may be denied if all required schoolwork curriculum is not current.
3. Passes will be allowed only after a student completes a "Pass Request Form" and the form is approved by the staff.
4. Students returning late to the Center from passes will discipline at the sole discretion of the Program Director and/or the Executive Director.

## P. Fees

The \$1,200 intake fee is non-refundable regardless of how long the student stays in the program. Fees do not include any medical or transportation to the Training Phase.

Sponsors will be notified of student's departure/dismissal and distribution of secured funds will be determined by the sponsor.

## Q. Safety

**In order to maintain a safe drug free environment we reserve the right to search any student at any time. All property belonging to students but brought onto the grounds, buildings, shops, etc. are also subject to search at anytime!**

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