

COMPREHENSIVE CHECK-LIST FOR 1ST INITIATION CANDIDATES

Note: Sheltered Candidates may study the check list to understand the requirements for the 1st initiation and should prepare themselves for the same by taking help and guidance from their Siksa/Senior Disciples.

This check list is to be filled in by the recommending authority scrutinizing and should write their comments.

Name: _____ Date of Shelter _____ Place of shelter _____

1st Initiation recommended by _____ Designation _____ of _____

_____ Temple / Nama Hatta. Date of recommendation _____

PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE & BEHAVIOR:		Yes No	Date (dd,mm,yy)
1.	Taken shelter from the guru practicing KC for the last 3 / 6 / 9 / 12 months		__/__/__
2.	Following the four Regulative principles for the last 6 / 9 / 12 / 24 / 36 / 48 months		__/__/__
3.	Has been regularly chanting the 16-rounds of Hare Krsna maha mantra japa for the last 6 / 9 / 12 / 24 / 36 / 48 / 60 months		__/__/__
4.	Regularly attends/performs Mangal Arati everyday rising early (can be at own home)		__/__/__
5.	Knows the mantras and procedure for offering bhoga to Lord Krsna.		__/__/__
6.	Knows guru's & Srila Prabhupada's name & pranam mantras.		__/__/__
7.	Can recognize and give proper names of guru-parampara on altar.		__/__/__
8.	Knows places & mantras for applying Vishnu tilaka and wears tilaka.		__/__/__
9.	Regularly attends temple or nama hatta meetings or does Krsna-seva.		__/__/__
10.	Has demonstrated steady commitment to devotional service for 12 months+		
11.	Regularly baths early in the morning and otherwise maintains cleanliness.		__/__/__
12.	Read Srila Prabhupada's small books _____ & his biography (small)[if not literate he should get general knowledge of these topics]*		__/__/__
13.	Read Bhagavad Gita As It Is with purports 2 / 3 / 4 times [if not literate they should get general knowledge of these topics]*		__/__/__
14.	Read Srimad Bhagavatam First Canto at least one time with purports. [if not literate they should get general knowledge of these topics]*		__/__/__
15.	Read Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu's Life & Teachings small book. [if not literate they should get general knowledge of these topics]*		__/__/__
16.	Read Nectar of Devotion first part once. [if not literate they should get general knowledge of these topics]*		__/__/__
17.	Passed an approved philosophical exam for First Initiation with 60%+ grade. [Otherwise they should complete 90% of philosophical check list.*]		
18.	Avoided offending vaisnavas and un-constructive criticism of devotees.		__/__/__
19.	One's cook is properly initiated, or at least a vegetarian.		
20.	Avoids eating anything but Krishna prasadam (except in emergencies)		__/__/__
21.	Doesn't have occupation or activities which are contrary to vaisnava principles. (selling non-vegetarian items or intoxicants, prostitution, gambling activities etc.)		__/__/__
22.	Only listens to ISKCON authorized spiritual lectures & preaching.		__/__/__
23.	Knows guru-puja, "samsara davanala" kirtans and tulasi pranam mantra.		__/__/__
24.	Has kept in communication with spiritual master at least once in three months either through writing or personal contacts.		__/__/__
25.	Has received written recommendation from local Temple President for first initiation.		__/__/__
26.	Has completed a vaisnava etiquette course (wherever available).		__/__/__
27.	If other than grihastha knows rules of renounced asram and is personally trying to follow them appropriately.		__/__/__
28.	If grihastha: knows the rules of grihastha life and is personally trying to practise them and is raising minor children in a Krishna conscious manner.		__/__/__
29.	Observes all Ekadasi Days and vaisnava festivals mentioned in ISKCON Vaisnava Calendar		__/__/__
30.	Have completed ISKCON Disciples' Course		__/__/__

	NOTE → Who writes the philosophical test need not answer this. PHILOSOPHICAL CHECKLIST (those who are not competently literate need to answer 90%-100% accurately to the following questions.	Grade	Date
1.	What are the qualifications of a bonafide spiritual master?		__/__/__
2.	After accepting Harinam initiation from a bonafide guru from whom should one accept further mantras?		__/__/__
3.	Why does one worship the guru like God? Is the guru God?		__/__/__
4.	How does the bonafide guru see himself in relation to Lord Krsna and the disciple?		__/__/__
5.	Do you believe that the spiritual master speaks the Absolute Truth? How is it possible that the same message spoken by Lord Krsna 5,000 years ago is represented by the spiritual master today?		__/__/__
6.	When should the spiritual master be rejected according to sastra?		__/__/__
7.	What are the qualifications and responsibilities of a disciple?		__/__/__
8.	What is the unique position of Srila Prabhupada in ISKCON? It is said that by accepting initiation one is connected with the guru parampara. Are you committed to serving according to Srila Prabhupada's instructions? Why?		__/__/__
9.	Why do you accept Lord Krsna as the Supreme Godhead?		__/__/__
10.	What are some of the glories of the holy name of Lord Krsna? Why do we chant Hare Krishna maha-mantra?		__/__/__
11.	Why do we follow the four regulative principles?		__/__/__
12.	Why do we chant Hare Krsna rather than other pious activities? What is the difference between chanting Hare Krishna and Punya Karmas?		__/__/__
13.	What is the position and responsibilities of the GBC body?		__/__/__
14.	Explain the difference between the body and the soul.		__/__/__
15.	What is ISKCON and why should one remain under it's shelter?		__/__/__
16.	It is said that at the time of accepting Harinam initiation the disciple is to follow the orders of the spiritual master in this life and even life after life. Do you believe this? Does one need to accept a spiritual master?		__/__/__
17.	Can you explain the ten offenses against the holy name?		__/__/__
18.	Why are you convinced to assist the spiritual master in spreading the Hare Krsna Sankirtan movement of Lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu?		__/__/__
19.	After initiation is it alright to chant less than 16 rounds when there is a lot of service? If one misses ones rounds, what should one do?		__/__/__
20.	What is your "goal in life" which you finally want to achieve at life's end?		__/__/__

*Note: Those who are illiterate (class 4 and below are absolved from compulsory reading, but should in that case hear the sastra as far as possible and can answer simplified tests verbally. They should know the basic philosophy properly.

The candidate is expected to answer in detail covering all the basic philosophical points. The examiner should grade as A,B,C,D,E or F. A=5, B=4, C=3, D=2 E=1 and F= 0. against each question and give final %.

Comments By the Examiner :

Name of the Examiner

Designation :

Signature:

Date: