



Program Expectations

The Forge program is a *one-time opportunity*. Please be certain you are ready for a lengthy commitment and a changed life. If you leave early, *there are no do-overs*.

The cost to put a student through the sixteen-month long program is approximately \$4000.00. If you have been cycling through homelessness, incarceration, and/or treatment, you qualify for a scholarship which means there will be no expenses to you other than those set out in this document. If you do not complete the program, you may be responsible for other costs as set out in this document.

Service Phase – (SP)

This 3 months is dedicated to developing relationships with our staff and performing community service. Certain benchmarks must be met in order to promote to Phase 1 (list of those is given to student upon acceptance into Forge).

Allowance (all students receive weekly by virtue of being in the program and is not conditional)

- SP/P1 students will be given a weekly allowance of \$5.00
- Students will be given a weekly allowance of \$10.00 **once they begin working**
 - Receipts for purchases may be required.
- Phase 2 and 3 students do not receive an allowance.

Appearance

- Hygiene – Students are expected to shower, wear deodorant, brush teeth, and maintain hair **daily**.
- Dress – Clothes need to be clean and presentable. **No muscle shirts, shirts or jeans with holes**, or shirts with inappropriate pictures or words. No stained clothing.
- Hair – Hair needs to be clean and well groomed. Eyes must be visible. No hats during class, devo, or meals.
- Facial Hair – Mustache remains above upper lip. Beards should remain trimmed and cannot extend below the jaw line. **Must shave daily**.

Cell Phones

- Students will not be able to have a cell phone until they begin working, end of Phase 1 and those will be provided by Forge. From Phase 2 on, smart phones only allowed on an as-needed basis. No social media, students must deactivate any social media accounts they previously had and are not allowed to reactivate them until after graduation.

Computers, I-Pads/Electronics

- Students will not be able to use any electronic device unless authorized by program staff.

Cleanliness *Matthew 6:19-21*

- Beds – Beds need to be made daily before leaving for class and before 9 am on weekends.

- Belongings – There should be no personal items left out. Belongings should be in student’s locker or in totes under bed. Items left out may be discarded.
- Chores – Basic chores will be assigned to maintain general cleanliness.

Conduct *Ephesians 4:29; James 3:3-12; Romans 13:1-7; Matthew 20:25-28*

- Language – **Students will be held to a higher standard both in character and conduct.** This includes using appropriate and respectful speech at all times.
- Legal – Students will be expected to uphold the law and not participate in any illegal activities.
- Attitude of Servanthood – A core element of the SP is service and students should be willing to serve as needed.
- UA – Students will be subject to random weekly urine analysis that they must pass to stay in the program.

Employment

- Students will not be employed outside of the program until the last month of Phase 1. No 3rd shift allowed while in the program.

Entitlements

- A core purpose of the Forge program is to prepare students for gainful employment. **No student may initiate or continue pursuit of disability while enrolled.**
- No student may receive any form of welfare or government funded assistance while in the program.

Locker Use

- Security – Forge will not be responsible for any stolen personal items.
- Subject to Search – Lockers, tubs, nightstands, and common areas will be subject to search at all times.

Mail

- Forge reserves the right to require disclosure of any mail.

Medications

- Medications must be approved and will be monitored by staff.
- If a physician prescribes a narcotic, Suboxone or marijuana, students must request an alternative medication.

Meetings

- Students are required to attend all weekly evening Forge activities with the group.
- Students are required to attend the weekly Forge meeting which is normally held at 2pm on Fridays.

Relationships *Romans 13:13-14; Galatians 5:16-26; Romans 8:5*

- Girls – There are to be no females in dorm area at any time other than Watered Gardens staff. **Unmarried students will not pursue any relationships while in the program.**

Residence

- SP students will live at Forge campus and will remain inside with building armed any time Forge staff is not present.
- Students are to remain on campus unless permission is given otherwise by Forge staff.

Schedule

- Timeliness – Students will be expected to attend and be on time for all events.

Studies *Ezra 7:10; 2 Timothy 2:15*

- Attentiveness – Students are expected to pay attention during all class sessions and activities.
- Participation – Active participation is expected from every student in all class sessions, meetings, and activities.
- Completion – All assignments are to be completed on time.

Tobacco *1 Corinthians 8:9*

- Because we want students to be free from all addictions, we want to help you quit if that is your desire. Those who do will be provided nicotine gum and patches.
- All students who come in smoking will be allowed to have 3 cigarettes per day, only to be smoked off property while at Forge. Those cigarettes can be purchased using the weekly allowance the students get on Fridays. No cigarettes can be purchased/provided by friends or family.
- No vaping allowed at any time.

Transportation

- Students receive a bicycle, from Forge, to be used for transportation as needed to get to church, work, Outreach Center, etc.

Phase 1 – (P1)

This 4 months is dedicated to clean living, classwork, and beginning work. Certain benchmarks must be met before promoting to Phase 2.

Expectations **same as SP**, plus the following additions:

Gym Use (off site) *1 Corinthians 9:24-27*

- Respect – Both exercise equipment and gym staff are to be treated with utmost respect.
- Chaperone – Students will not be able to go to the gym unless they have a Watered Gardens/Forge team member with them.
- Wellness plan adherence – Every student will be expected to adhere to the physical wellness plan established for them.

Employment Expectations (last month of P1)

- Student receives cell phone, provided by Forge.
- Student bicycle is expected mode of transportation to work.
- Students have freedom to leave property (with at least one same-phase classmates) with prior approval.
- Student selects a mentor from his home church and weekly mentor meet is **required**.
- Once student begins working, attendance is required at two weekly Forge evening activities instead of all five.
- An account will be opened in the name of the student **that they will not be able to access**. Student wages will be directly deposited into this account.
- Students will need to be working at least 30 hrs weekly and have saved at least \$1300 to promote to Phase 2.

Phase 2 – (P2)

This 3 months is dedicated to employment and transition to independent living. Certain benchmarks must be met before promoting to Phase 3.

Expectations **same as above**, plus the following additions:

- Student will reside in the upstairs at Forge for three months.
- Full time regular employment is required.
- Church attendance, two Forge activities, and mentor meet are required weekly. (All three need to be reported by student to program director by noon on Fridays so it can be recorded in the weekly meeting notes.)
- No women other than staff are to be in the upstairs transition area.
- Student will have access to \$75/wk of his funds for food and incidentals. The remainder of monies will continue being directly deposited into account mentioned in P1.
- Payment toward utilities is \$150 per month, per student, and will come from the account mentioned in P1 of this document.
- If, for some reason, a student would need to stay in P2 an additional three months, the utility payment would increase to \$300 monthly for the next three months. If additional time is needed, payment increases to \$450 monthly for up to the next three months, etc.
- Student remains subject to random UA.
- Student will need to have at least \$2500 in savings in order to promote to Phase 3.

Phase 3 – (P3)

This 6 months is dedicated to independent living and making healthy choices. Certain benchmarks must be met in order to graduate.

Expectations **same as above**, plus the following additions:

- Student moves to an apartment at God's Resort at this time.
- Student is working full time in steady employment, attending and serving at his home church, and attending at least one Forge activity (of his choice) weekly.
- Student continues to meet with mentor weekly. (Church, activity, and mentor meet reported to program director by noon on Fridays so it can be recorded in the weekly meeting notes.)
- Student must have at least \$3000 in savings in order to graduate.
- Student participates in graduation ceremony at conclusion of P3 pending current employment and mentor recommendation.

Finances

If a Forge student is terminated from the program (voluntarily or disciplinarily) at any time prior to their graduation, the balance in the account from P1 of this document, up to a maximum of \$2400.00 shall be retained by the Forge program for partial repayment of his scholarship. Any remaining funds will then be returned to the student.

Promotion to Next Phase

Students **will not** promote to the next phase until that phase’s benchmarks have been achieved **and** the required amount of time in that phase has been met. It is expected that students will be developing in character and spiritual maturity as they move through the phases of the Forge program.

Changes & Addendums

In order to offer the best program possible, we consistently evaluate the expectations of the students in the Program. Should changes to the student expectations occur during your time in the Forge Program, those changes will apply to you and all other students participating in the Program at the time of the change. _____ (initial here to indicate agreement)

I agree to the Student Program Expectations. _____
Your signature

Print Name Today’s date

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Receiver Date