#### The True Buddha School Senior Reverend Selection Guidelines for 2022

(In accordance with the True Buddha School Bylaws, Regulations Governing True Buddha School Senior Reverends)

**I. Application Deadline:** Now until April 22, 2022, Seattle time. Applications will not be accepted after this date.

#### **II.** Application Method:

- 1. If there is a local True Buddha School (TBS) Vajrayana Association or Vajrayana Buddhist Council (Taiwan, Malaysia & Indonesia): applicants must mail all required application documentation to the local Vajrayana Association/Vajrayana Buddhist Council prior to April 15. The local Vajrayana Association/ Vajrayana Buddhist Council will assist in collecting and submitting application documentation to True Buddha Foundation (TBF).
- 2. In the absence of a local Vajrayana Association/Vajrayana Buddhist Council, applicants should submit all required application documentation directly to TBF no later than Apr. 22. Applications will not be processed after this date.
  - A. TBF office in Seattle:

17110 NE 40TH COURT, REDMOND, WA 98052, U.S.A. Tel 1(425) 885 7573 Fax 1(425) 883 2173

B. TBF office in Taiwan:

No. 100, LianSheng Lane, Shanjiao Village, Tsao Tun Township, Nantou County, Taiwan, 54264, R.O.C.

Tel +886 49 2312992 \ +886 49 2331300 Fax +886 49 23 31303

- 3. TBF Dharma Affairs email: tbsdda2019@gmail.com
- 4. Reverends who have already applied should also complete this form: https://forms.gle/KebowTGn4AJkoQ8H6
- 5. Selection Method:

Beginning July 9, 2022, selection interviews will be conducted online. Interview dates will be scheduled and announced based on applicant time zone/geographic region.

#### **III.** Applicant Selection Criteria

- 1. Member of ordained sangha for five or more years.
- 2. Must be a resident/extended-stay reverend with duties at the recommending cultivation venue.
- 3. Under 65 years old.
- 4. Able to read and write Chinese.
- 5. Personal practice (following four criteria must be met in full)
  - (1) Performed Great Homage a minimum of 100,000 times.
  - (2) Minimum 100,000 recitations of Fourfold Refuge Mantra.
  - (3) Minimum one million recitations of Padmakumara Mantra.
  - (4) Minimum 100,000 recitations of Dharma Protector Mantra. (Practitioner to choose the Dharma protector)

©Must be familiar with Four-Preliminaries Practice, the eight principal deity practices, simple karma practices, and Treasure Vase Breathing Practice

6. Have taken the reverend training courses, studied at Weide Buddhist College or any Buddhist college recognized by TBS, participated in the True Buddha educational networking workshops organized by TBF Education Department, and attended classes in TBS Online University, True Buddha Dharma School, or training Sangha members and Dharma propagating personnel organized by the TBF Education Department, and submitted a graduation certificate, certificate of course completion, hours of attendance, and any other supporting documentation.

**Note:** Applicants must register to attend the True Buddha Dharma School 2022 Training Course for Ordained Sangha organized by the TBF Education Department.

### IV. Documentation Required for Submission of Application:

Please follow this link to download attachments listed in items 1-4 below: https://tbsn.org/download/index.html

- 1. The True Buddha School (TBS) Senior Reverend Application Documentation Checklist and Senior Reverend Application Forms (See Attachment I-1 to I-4).
- 2. Cultivation venue letter of recommendation (See Attachment II) Rules governing cultivation venue letter of recommendation:
  - (1) Must be written on official cultivation venue stationery.
  - (2) Letterhead: Must show full name of cultivation venue.
  - (3) Main body of letter: Recommendation content by the board of directors (organization) of the cultivation venue. The content must be a resolution of a meeting of the board of directors.
  - (4) Concluding section of letter: Must have the official stamp of the cultivation venue and be signed by all members of the board of directors.

(Note: Sample format of cultivation venue letter of recommendation: summary of the reverend's work history, service achievements, moral character, etc. As for the format of the letter of recommendation, the cultivation venue may customize the letter format as long as the format conforms to the rules described above.)

- 3. Letters of recommendation by two or more masters (See Attachment III) (Note: Each letter of recommendation must be written and signed by a TBS master. If there is a local master, at least one letter of recommendation must be written and signed by the local master. (Local: within the given country)
- 4. Letter of recommendation from the local Vajrayana Association/Buddhist Council (Attachment IV). In the absence of a local Vajrayana Association/Vajrayana Buddhist Council, a letter of recommendation issued by a local Vajrayana Association/ Buddhist Council is not required.
- 5. Clinical examination report for tuberculosis (Issued by a hospital clinic)
- 6. Clinical examination report for Hepatitis B (Issued by hospital clinic)
- 7. Essay reflecting on one's study of books or articles. Regulations governing essay theme and number of words:
  - (1) The essay should be between 1,000-2,000 words. (Indicate book name).
  - (2) The scope of the reading material should be the books and Dharma discourses of Grandmaster Living Buddha Lian-sheng. The essay based on this scope may also include one's personal realization resulting from one's cultivation.

## **V.** Scope of examination:

Grandmaster's books:

Book 75, Ultimate Teaching of the True Buddha Tantra,

Book 81, *True Buddha Liturgies*, Book 154, *The Aura of Wisdom*,

Book 214, The Sword of the Yogi.

Grandmster's discourse:

Great Rainbow Light Attainment Vol I-V

Interaction Is Power Q&As

### **VI.** Selection criteria scoring weight:

**Documentation: 20** 

Essay: 10

Written exam: 20 Hymning: 20 Interview: 30

# **VII.** Appointment as Senior Reverend: a Senior Reverend may only serve at the original recommending cultivation venue. Service at any other cultivation venue is not authorized.

#### VIII. Guidelines and Duties for Senior Reverend appointed in 2022

Duty		Details
1.		A Senior Reverend must serve at the original recommending
	original	cultivation venue. Service at any other cultivation venue is not
	cultivation venue.	authorized.
2.	Assisting the TBF	(1) When a reverend seeks affiliation at a cultivation venue,
	Public Relations	but has not yet found one, a Senior Reverend may assist as
	Department to	a liaison between a cultivation venue and the reverend.
	provide guidance	(2) Reverends who are presently cultivating at home.
	to non-affiliated	
	reverends.	
3.	$\mathcal{C}$	Assisting and coordinating with TBF in local events such as
	coordinating with	ceremonies, workshops, etc.
	TBF in the	
	promotion of	
	Dharma affairs	
4.	Dharma	(1) Propagating Buddhadharma and True Buddha Tantric
	propagation and	Dharma.
	discourses	(2) Teaching and Dharma discourses

# IX. Senior Reverend Promotion Procedure SOP TBS Dharma propagating personnel selection criteria, regulations, and implementation methods:

In most situations, a senior reverend will be promoted according to total years with complete precepts, educational background, years of service, ability, moral character, etc. Following the initial selection and TBF approval, a candidate recommended for promotion will be submitted to Guru Buddha and Shimu for final approval. The standards and evaluation for promotion must assess the reverend's academic performance, moral character, and service contribution. A reverend who is knowledgeable, moral, and meritorious, in combination with seniority, may be promoted.

- 1. Principle of **academic performance** assessment, for example: Research on Buddhism is indeed in-depth and insightful; has achieved concrete results in lecturing.
- 2. Evaluation of **service contribution**, such as working conscientiously, diligently and responsibly; excellent job performance, contributing to the permanent residence; in the cause of Dharma propagation, there are innovative ideas which can be realized concretely.
- 3. Assessment of **moral character**, for example: steady cultivation, disciplined life; majestic and solemn, in line with the precepts; stable, in harmony with everyone. The selection procedure will also follow the SOP.

# True Buddha School Dharma Propagating Personnel Promotion Procedure SOP

True Buddha School Dharma Propagating Personnel (Reverend-Sr. Reverend-Master) Promotion Procedure is as follow:

Candidate resume and expectations		
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Cultivation venue letter of recommendation: Examines candidate's service		
performance at the cultivation venue		
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Master letter of recommendation (at least three masters who have more than thirty		
years experience): candidate is evaluated by a master who is familiar with the		
candidate		
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Local Vajrayana Association or Vajrayana Buddhist Council letter of		
recommendation: Examines the interactive relation between the candidate and local		
Vajrayana Association or Vajrayana Buddhist Council		
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Candidate's background investigation report by TBF Supervisory Department: Any		
misconduct, warnings, punishments, or awards?		
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Review report by TBF Education Department: Has participated in the True Buddha		
educational networking workshops? Has earned sufficient credits?		
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Interview: By all TBF directors		
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Resolution by TBF Core Committee		
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Submission to Root Guru and Shimu for approval		
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Beseech Root Guru to bless or bestow empowerment. Officially announced on TBS		
media		