



How do I Request or Sponsor a Wong Kur?

Have you been waiting to receive an initiation into a particular practice? Why not request it? You don't need to be a senior student to request and sponsor a Wong Kur but you should be known to the teachers. When a student requests a Wongkur, they become the sponsor of the Wongkur.

Sponsoring a Wongkur comes with some responsibilities.

Sponsoring a Wong Kur, an initiation, is an opportunity to share a rare and precious gift. It is awakening a spiritual friend whom you can call upon at any time. With dedicated practice, you too will be able to say, "Don't need thangka, am thangka".

It's important to understand that requesting the Teachers for a Wongkur is a serious undertaking for the teachers and the Center and the student. It should be a formal request, full of joy and celebration, but also with honouring the power of the event. It should be done in person, with consideration and respect.

Here is some information to help you understand better what it means to sponsor a Wong Kur.

- Only sponsor a Wong Kur if you're sure you will be attending it.
- It's important that you read the PDF "What is Wongkur". The most recent version is dated 2021.
- If requesting one, think carefully about what initiation you want to ask for. Choose a deity you are practicing with or plan to practice with after the Wong Kur.
- Request the Wong Kur directly from the Lamas.



- Once confirmed, please let the on-site team know that your request has been accepted, plus the date suggested by the Lamas for the initiation. This is so that we can schedule accordingly and let others know about it.
- A sponsor makes offerings of food, clothing, medicine, and shelter to the Lamas during the Wong Kur. Bear in mind that if the Lamas are travelling they need to keep their suitcases light.
- These offerings are given to the Lamas when you present your donation and scarf near the end of the Wong Kur.
- It is important that the sponsor be involved in the set-up of the shrine.
- Organisation and set-up usually begins a few days before the Wong Kur to make sure that flowers and supplies are purchased in advance. Ask for guidance and support the Wong Kur Master, retreat leaders or Center staff. Note that the sponsor is responsible for the set-up costs. This includes flowers, nectar, and medicine (candies), candles in the correct colors, making the torma(s), material to create the protection cords, and ensuring that the sadhanas have been printed. There are instructions on how to set up and take down a shrine in the shrine cupboard at Clear Sky. Work with the Wong Kur master closely and support them.
- Immediately after the Wong Kur has finished, the Wong Kur Master leads the cleanup and is responsible for seeing that all of the implements and Wong Kur materials have been put away carefully again. As sponsor help the Wong Kur Master as much as you can. Ask them how



you can assist and stay with them until the end of the clean up is completed.

- After a Wong Kur, it is important for initiates to do 10,000 mantras as soon as possible to seal the energy in their mind stream, ideally within the first 2 days. Of course, as sponsor you will make the Lamas, yourself, and all beings very happy by completing 100,000 mantras after the Wong Kur.