

Oxford House and Drug Court

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ THIS INFORMATION SHEET AND FILL OUT THE APPLICATION BEFORE CONTACTING OXFORD HOUSE FOR PRESCREENING.

As a part of your participation in the Montgomery County Circuit Court Adult Drug Court program, you have been directed to apply for residency in one of the Oxford Houses located in Montgomery County. The following information supplements the information about Oxford House contained in your Participant Handbook. Please read it carefully so that you fully understand what you should expect, and what will be expected of you, should you be accepted into an Oxford House. Hopefully, you will find that your experience in Oxford House will have been of benefit to you on your way to long-term recovery from alcohol and/or drug abuse.

What is an Oxford House?

An Oxford House is an affordable, self-run, self-supported alcohol and drug-free living environment for individuals in recovery from alcoholism and/or drug addiction. All Oxford Houses operate pursuant to a charter that has three requirements:

- Each house is democratically self-run by the members;
- Each house is financially self-supporting, responsible for all household expenses; and
- Each house must expel any member who returns to using drugs or alcohol.

Oxford Houses' main goal is to provide self-sufficient affordable housing for individuals recovering from alcohol and/or drug addiction. Oxford House is not a treatment facility or a halfway house. However, Oxford House recognizes the need for active participation in some recovery support program and accepts most forms of abuse treatment, and the 12 step programs of Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous and other 12 step groups.

In 2016, only 16.7% of the more than 35,000 residents in the national network of Oxford Houses were expelled because of relapse. To best improve your chances for success in an Oxford House, it is important that you fully understand the three basic requirements described below.

The three requirements for living in an Oxford House

There are three basic requirements for living in an Oxford House that are based on the three charter requirements that every Oxford House must comply with. **First, you must actively participate in various house functions.** Each house is self-run, following a standardized democratic system of operations that involves the election of designated officers and mandatory weekly house meetings. All members have an equal vote in all house matters. All members also have a shared responsibility in maintaining the house and keeping it clean and in good condition, which requires the members be assigned designated household responsibilities on a revolving basis. **Second, you must timely pay your Equal Expense Share (EES)** of the various costs of operating the house (rent, utilities, cable TV, water, trash removal, laundry soap, paper towels, toilet paper, coffee, etc., depending on the house). Since each house is financially self-supporting, each member is required to pay his or her EES share in advance, and falling two weeks behind is grounds for expulsion from the house. **Third, you must remain totally clean and sober.** If a member relapses on drugs and/or alcohol, he or she will be expelled immediately upon a majority vote by the other house members, who vote only on the question of whether the member in question did, in fact, use. Past experience with the first Oxford House proved that expelling the member that returns to alcohol or drugs no matter how briefly protects the house for the other members.

Oxford House and Drug Court

-2-

The only other requirement is that you do not engage in violent or disruptive behavior. Disruptive behavior can encompass many things but the bottom line is if an individual's behavior is a disruption to the normal flow of house operations, then that will be considered disruptive. Depending on the nature and severity of such behavior, the other house members may address disruptive behavior by first putting the offending member "on contract," meaning that such member's continued residency in the house is conditioned on compliance with specified behavior. If such disruptive behavior is severe enough or includes violence or threat of violence, it will be dealt with by the house and treated as a relapse and the person involved will be asked to leave, in most cases immediately, upon a majority vote. The individual can make arrangements with the house to get his/her personal belongings within a reasonable time frame. The house will notify the Drug Court that the individual no longer lives at the house and state the reason why.

As a Drug Court participant, it is important that you address any alleged violation of your Oxford House's rules by another Drug Court participant without taking into account the potential consequences he or she might face in Drug Court if evicted from the house. Any house member who fails to report another member's return to using is also subject to being expelled from a house, and you do not want to jeopardize your own recovery or Drug Court situation to protect another house member. You are not helping that member, and more importantly, you are putting the other house members at risk.

Prescreening and admission process

To be accepted in an Oxford House, you must **first complete the attached application and questionnaire**. Carefully read the application and honestly answer the questions. Once you have completed the application, you must **contact the appropriate Oxford House representative identified below** for prescreening. Prescreening is important to insure that you understand the information provided here and to confirm that you could benefit from living in an Oxford House. It does not mean, or guarantee, that you will be accepted into an Oxford House. Your acceptance is determined by the members of the specific house to which you are applying.

In the event your prescreening is successful, you will be referred to a house or houses with vacancies, if any. When you contact the specific Oxford House (or Houses) that you are referred to, you will be scheduled to be interviewed by the residents of that particular Oxford House you are applying to. It is important to **review your application and questionnaire before your interview and bring them to the interview**. Many of the questions you will be asked at the interview will be based on the information contained in your application and questionnaire. The residents of the house then vote on your acceptance. An 80% affirmative vote is needed to be accepted.

What to expect if accepted into an Oxford House

If accepted into the house, you will be required to pay the house a non-refundable fee before move-in. Typically, this move-in fee equals or approximates the weekly EES for that house. The EES varies with each house but the range for houses in Montgomery County is approximately \$110.00 to \$150.00 per week. You will be on a restrictive probationary period. (Usually 30 days - depending upon the house). This would include going to a predetermined number of 12 step meetings, getting a sponsor and possibly a lowered curfew time. The probation terms will differ from house to house but expect it to be at least a month. This probation period allows time for the house to get comfortable with you and for you to get comfortable with the house. After the initial month, you will have all privileges granted the other house members.

Oxford House and Drug Court

-3-

If you have any questions about Oxford House that are not explained by, or as a result of this information sheet, your contact person identified below should be able to answer them

Contact Information:

Whit Holden for men @ 301-512-7654
Whit.holden@oxfordhouse.org

Anna Jones for women @ 240-855-9703
Anna.jones@oxfordhouse.org

Oxford House and Drug Court
FILL OUT YOUR APPLICATION IN FULL OR IT WILL NOT BE PROCESSED

Application for Membership in Oxford House

Page 1 of 5

To be accepted in an Oxford House an applicant must complete both sides of this application and be interviewed by the residents of the particular Oxford House to which the applicant is applying. The residents of the house then vote on acceptance. An 80% affirmative vote is needed to be accepted. Carefully read the application and honestly answer the questions. Living in an Oxford House is special and if you understand its value it can help you achieve comfortable sobriety without relapse. A blank sheet is provided in the event there is not enough space provided to fully answer any of the questions.

1. Print Name (Last, First, Middle)			3. Date of Birth		
			Month	Day	Year
2. Present address (Street) Check if treatment facility			4. Phone Where You Can Be Reached		
			Home())		
City	State	Zip	Work ())		
5. Are you an Alcoholic? (recovering)		6. Date of Your Last Drink?	9. List drugs you used addictively:		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>					
7. Are you addicted to drugs? (recovering)		8 Date of last drug use ?			
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>					
10. When did you attend your first AA or NA meeting?			11. How many AA/NA meeting do you now attend each?		
12. Do you want to stop drinking alcohol and using addictive drugs?			13. Are you employed? If "yes" who is your employer?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
14. Are you getting welfare or other non-job related income?			15. If you do not have a job will you get one?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If "yes" what?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If "yes" what job plans do you have?		
16. What is your monthly income right now?			17. What do you expect your monthly income to be next month		
\$ _____			\$ _____		
18. Marital status [Check One]			19. Do you have a medical doctor?		
Married <input type="checkbox"/> Never Married <input type="checkbox"/> Separated <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/>			If "yes" list the doctor's name and phone number:		
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
20. Have you ever been to a treatment facility for alcoholism and/or drug addiction?			21. Do you take prescription drugs?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
If "yes" list for each time, the dates, the treatment provider, phone number and primary counselor, if any.			If "yes" list drugs and reason the drug has been prescribed.		

22. Date of move in ? Immediately Other - If "other" list the date you would want to move in, if accepted, and why the date is in the future rather than immediately. Date: _____ Reason:

23. Have you ever lived in an Oxford House before? Yes No "yes," provide the name and location of the Oxford House below and answer question 24.

24. [Answer this question if the answer to question 23 was "yes."] I left the previous Oxford House for the following reason: [check one]

relapse, voluntarily, other reason(s) _____

I, did or do not owe money to the Oxford House I left. If I did owe money to the Oxford House I left, I will agree to repay the money I owed to my former Oxford House. Yes No

25. Emergency Telephone Numbers. [List family doctor, if you have one, + two family members or friends]

Name and Address	Relationship	Telephone
1.		
2.		
3.		

26. I realize that the Oxford House to which I am applying for residency has been established in compliance with the conditions of § 2036 of the Federal Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, P.L. 100-690, as amended, which provides that federal money loaned to start the house requires the house residents to (A) prohibit all residents from using any alcohol or illegal drugs, (B) expel any resident who violates such prohibition, (C) equally share household expenses including the monthly lease payment, among all residents, and (D) utilize democratic decision making within the group including inclusion in and expulsion from the group. In accepting these terms, the applicant excludes himself or herself from the normal due process afforded by local landlord-tenant laws.

27. Fill out the attached questionnaire, which includes questions you are likely to be asked during your house interview.

28. I have read all of the material on this application form including the limitations set forth in item 26. I have also answered each question honestly and want to achieve comfortable recovery from alcoholism and/or drug addiction without relapse.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

Oxford House and Drug Court
Oxford House Questionnaire

Questionnaire	
What is the background of your current crime? Please explain in detail use another sheet of paper if necessary	
Do you have any other legal issues , Court dates . Warrants	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If Yes Please Explain	
Have you ever been arrested for any sex crimes?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes please explain.	
What is your plan for recovery?	
Do you have a sponsor?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If you currently do not have a sponsor will you get one?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
How many 12 step meetings do you attend per week	
How many 12 step meetings will you attend when released	
What step are you on now	
Have you identified your relapse triggers	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
if yes what are they?	
Tell us what your behavior might be like when your headed towards a relapse	

Oxford House and Drug Court

Page 4 of 5

How do you plan on paying your share of living expenses?	
How do you feel about sharing a bedroom / group living	
How do you handle confrontation?	
Can you confront others in a constructive manner?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
How?	
Have you ever attended anger management	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you have an anger problem	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
if yes, please explain	
Are you involved in a relationship?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you have children?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, will they be visiting you on weekends or holidays ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you have any medical problems or mental disorders?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
if yes, please explain	
Do you take any medication	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
if yes please list medication and explanation of what it's for	
What do you feel you can contribute to Oxford House?	
What do you hope to achieve by living in an Oxford House	

Oxford House and Drug Court

Do you have any prejudices? Race / Sex / Religion?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
if yes please explain	

Do you have any problems performing house chores?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
if yes please explain	

Use this area to tell use anything else you might think we should know about
--